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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Praises EEC Stance on Middle East

LD2706172890 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Arab League General Secretariat expressed its satisfaction with the EEC statement issued yesterday in Dublin on the situation in the Middle East, which included opposition to the Israeli settlement policy, considering it as an increasing obstacle to progress of the peace process.

A statement issued today by the General Secretariat adds: Starting from its complete belief in the role of the EEC in achieving peace in the region, the Arab League looks forward to the EEC countries exercising their influence to make Israel stop its expansionist and settlement schemes and make it respect the international laws concerning the security and safety of the region's countries and the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination.

Maghreban Consultative Council Issues Statement

LD2706145190 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The work of the second meeting of the first ordinary session of the Maghreban Consultative Council, which was convened in Tunis on 24 and 25 June, was crowned with the publication of a political statement which expressed, in particular, the satisfaction of the members of the Consultative Council with the good results of the works and projects which were prepared by the specialized ministerial committees and which will be submitted to the Presidential Council in July. The Council also expressed its approval of the statement of [Tunisian] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali—the current chairman of the UMA [Arab Maghreb Union] Presidential Council—which he delivered on 25 June on the occasion of installing the UMA judicial authority. Here are more details of the statement:

The statement reaffirmed the Council's desire to continue to work in order to make available wider opportunities for consultation, cooperation and perpetuation of public freedoms and human rights, seeking in the process to pursue a sound policy which realizes a Maghreb without borders, capable of investing the material and human resources in the region in the interest of the Maghreban community and free from any foreign subjugation. The Council denounced the threats against the People Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and expressed its condemnation of any threat or aggression by any side against any member state of the UMA.

The position of the Maghreban community abroad was one of the most important issues which the Maghreban Consultative Council studied. In the political statement the Council stressed the necessity of working to preserve the identity of this community and its Arab-Islamic roots. The statement called for the attainment of a base for negotiations with the European countries in order to guarantee the rights of Maghreban workers and freedom of their movement in all the countries of unified Europe.

In addition the statement reaffirmed that the Union—in all its organizations—strives to participate in the achievement of comprehensive Arab unity. In this connection it praised the establishment of the unified Yemeni Republic. The Council also strongly condemned all the threats of aggression against Iraq aimed at preventing it from possessing science and the weapon of technology. The Council also called in its statement for a resolute stand by the Palestinian people in confronting the Zionist plan which aims at aborting the intifadah and achieving the liquidation of the Palestinian people. In this connection the Council pointed out the necessity for the Arab nation to be aware of the threatening danger and to work at drawing the world public's attention to the seriousness of the Israeli strategem, which threatens the Arab nation. The Council stressed the necessity for speeding up the convening of an Arab parliamentary meeting to discuss the best methods for supporting the Palestinian people's intifadah, materially and morally, and for adopting a unified policy at an international level to confront the threats and challenges to the peoples of the region.

The Maghreban Consultative Council—in light of the latest developments of the Palestinian question, and especially the issue of the immigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories—called on the Soviet leadership to halt this migration, which threatens the legitimate rights of the Palestinian Arab people. The Council regards the suspension of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue by the U.S. Administration as being harmful to U.S.-Arab relations and would hinder the international efforts to establish peace in the region. The Council praised the efforts of the Arab Tripartite Committee for the settlement of the Lebanese question. The Council appealed to all sides in Lebanon to close ranks and work to foil the Zionist plans and safeguard Lebanon's independence, unity, and Arabism.

With regard to the relations between the UMA and the African states, the Council called on the UMA member-states to strengthen cohesion and cooperation with the African states in order to guarantee Arab-African joint interests. In this connection the Council expressed its solidarity with all the African peoples struggling for dignity and freedom, and expressed its satisfaction with the victories which have been achieved by the freedom movement in South Africa.

On relations with the European states and the EEC, the Consultative Council statement called for the consolidation of these relations within a framework of mutual respect and equal interests, bearing in mind the methods and means required to preserve mutual interests. The Council expressed its support for the plan to set up a delegation from the UMA to coordinate with the European Common Market in all fields. The statement stressed the necessity of working to confront the foreign

debt and to lay down a firm foundation to reduce the level of interest and to gradually lessen dependence on foreign loans and to encourage the investment of Arab funds in projects which are beneficial to the peoples of the Arab Maghreb. The Council also stressed its efforts to combat pollution and to lay down a clear policy on the environment.

Mediterranean Ministers Present Final Communique

LD2706131490 Algiers APS in English 1026 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Algiers, 27/6/90 (APS)—Foreign Minister of non-aligned Mediterranean countries (Algeria, Cyprus Egypt, Libya, Malta, Morocco, Tunisia, Palestine, Syria, Yugoslavia), expressed will of their countries to contribute in the transformation of the Mediterranean into a (?zone of) peace and cooperation.

The ministers wound up [words indistinct] day third meeting here by a final communique reaffirming their resolution to stick to their positions adopted during La Valette and Brioni meetings.

The ministers underlined that dialogue and inter-communal talks are the only way of reaching a just solution to problems in the region though peaceful means on the basis of the UN Charter. On the economic situation in the region, they underlined the aggravation of the development problems (?in) sharp contrast with the positive tendencies in Europe. The relaunching of the developing process of Mediterranean non-aligned countries requires, first of all a substantial increase of the transfer of financial resources in [word indistinct] direction and a just solution to the foreign debt issue as well as the elaboration of appropriate and effective mechanisms of cooperation among the countries of the region, in particular with the EEC.

The ministers expresses their conviction that there could be neither stability in the Mediterranean, nor better prospects for the countries of the region as a whole, without a reduction of the economic disparities and a durable growth of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries which are displaying sustained efforts to adjust and which are making sacrifices in a still unfavourable environment they reiterated their will to engage with European countries in a constructive dialogue on economic issues and cooperation and to promote common efforts towards finding efficient solutions to the problems of development and cooperation in the region. [sentence as received]

The communique further considered that a favorable international economics environment was vital for the realisation of their development community and among them particularly the mediterranean ones to make efforts to adjust the new regional (?reality) the integration process would contribute to the economies of the Mediterranean countries. [sentence as received]

The ministers noted the growing concern of their countries over the problems related to environmental protection in the Mediterranean which have reached alarming proportions during the past few years. In [words indistinct] they welcomed the decision to hold a meeting next September in Palma de Majorca to examine ways and means to strengthen the protection of the Mediterranean ecosystems and to safeguard it from dangers constituted by any introduction of toxic, nuclear industrial waste.

The communique underlined the growing importance of using the advantage of the economic complementarity of their countries to foster a cooperation in all form among them. They reaffirmed the importance of the program of action for mutual economic cooperation of the Mediterranean non-aligned countries adopted in Brioni and agreed to continue the implementation of its provisions.

As for the situation in Middle-East the minister declared that the massive influx of immigrant Jews particularly from the Soviet Union and (?their) settlement in the occupied Palestine territory, including al-Quds, [words indistinct] and southern Lebanon has innumerable negative consequences for peace in the region, undermines the peace process, frustrates the efforts so far displayed and constitutes a blatant violation of the international law. They reasserted that all measures taken by Israel to alter the political, cultural and demographic features of Palestine and other occupied territories are null and they underlined that the heroic intifadah of the Palestinian people gave rise to important developments in the region thus creating the conditions for a common action by the whole international community with a view to reaching a comprehensive, lasting and just settlement.

After reviewing the tragic situation prevailing in Lebanon, the ministers expressed their deep concern over the resurgences of violence and the persistent obstacles impeding the continued implemenation of the (?national) reconciliation agreement reached in al-Ta'if under the aegis of the Arab Tripartite Committee. While stating their commitment to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Lebanon, the communique reaffirmed solidarity with the Lebanese people.

Examining the situation in Cyprus the minister reiterates their solidarity with the people and government of Cyprus and reaffirm their (?support) for the unity and [word indistinct] status of [words indistinct] of Cyprus.

The communique also largely tackled the necessity of setting up a new system of collective security in Europe and the imperative participation of the non aligned Mediterranean countries to such a project.

Palestinian Affairs

Khalaf Expects Israeli War Within Six Months

NC2806110490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1030 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Tunis, 28 Jun (MENA)—Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee, has stressed that Israel

is currently preparing U.S. and world public opinion for the launching of a war against Syria and Iraq. He added that Western and U.S. media are contributing to this information campaign against Iraq.

In a press statement published here today, Khalaf said that war is coming, that it will take place within six months, and that Israel is planning it with a mentality that should be a thing of the past. He stressed that for Israel war is a strategic matter which it cannot abandon because it serves its higher interests, either through emigration [of Palestinians] or through a blow to Arab military power.

Salah Khalaf added that whoever looks at the Israeli committee formed to liquidate the intifadah, which includes Arens, Sharon, Rafa'el Eytan, and David Levi, realizes the danger waiting for the Arab nation.

Qaddumi Discusses U.S. Role in Peace Process

LD2706151890 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Palestinians are satisfied with the stance adopted by the EC in its recent summit in Dublin, in which the EC calls on Israel to open a dialogue with the Palestinian people without mentioning the PLO. According to Bassam Abu-Sharif, president 'Arafat's advisor, the Palestinians consider the EC's stance to be sincere, as well as a qualitative and positive move toward solving the Middle East crisis, especially under current circumstances, which are characterized by Washington freezing its dialogue with the PLO.

On the other hand, Israel criticized the EC stance.

In Algiers yesterday, Abdelhamid Boucraa [name as received] asked Faruq Qaddumi, official in charge of Palestinian foreign affairs, about the future of peace in the Middle East after the suspension of the U.S. Palestinian dialogue:

[Begin recording] [Boucraa] Can we say that the Algiers meeting represents the march forward to confront the situation, especially after the suspension of the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue?

[Qaddumi] We did not hope for much from the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. It was, however, a landmark along the road of forcing the United States to recognize the PLO and the national rights of the Palestinian people. We learned from experience that that dialogue was an intermittent dialogue which would never include the essential issues of political settlement.

We have proved to the world with this Palestinian flexibility that the United States on its own is not qualified to achieve a settlement because it is not sincere in these peace efforts. In order to reach a just and permanent peace in the Middle East, the participation of the permanent members of the UN Security Council and all the concerned sides is necessary, and this has to be under the auspices of the UN and on the basis of the UN resolutions on this matter. [end recording]

Abu-Sharif Welcomes EC Statement on Mideast

JN2706175090 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The PLO has welcomed the statement issued by the EC at the conclusion of its meeting in Dublin. It views the Europeans as responsible and serious about the dangerous developments in the Middle East.

Brother Bassam Abu-Sharif, advisor to brother Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine, said in Tunis today that the Dublin statement constitutes a positive quantitative transformation and a message to the countries of the world to take action to end the sufferings of the Palestinian people and to press for international action in order to end the occupation and establish comprehensive peace.

He added: The EC statement acquires special importance in light of the dangerous developments represented by the U.S. Administration's suspension of the dialogue with the PLO, the major party to the conflict in the Middle East.

Abu-Sharif asserted that the U.S. decision is a dangerous development that nearly aborts the peace efforts. He expressed his hope that, after the Dublin statement, the EC will take practical steps aimed at putting an end to the deterioration in the Middle East peace process and to the organized Zionist state's terrorism concentrated on the Palestinian people. [passage omitted]

Commentary Praises Statement

JN2806122190 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 0500 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Political editor's commentary: "Dublin's Message to Washington and Tel Aviv"]

[Text] Once again, the facts are revealed in a way that satisfies neither the Americans nor their allies in Tel Aviv. The European heads of state have bolstered their previous stands of which the Venice Summit of 1980 was the starting point and perhaps [words indistinct]. The Dublin summit statement affirmed yesterday, even if indirectly, that the U.S.-Zionist program to deal with the Arab-Zionist struggle will only lead to complete failure.

The U.S. and Zionist proposals concerning the issue of settlement received condemnation and disapproval from the European Community leaders, because ignoring facts and indulging in fantasy will in no way be a helpful factor to the peace process. In more precise terms, it will only be a hindrance to true peace and a permanent source of explosion, war, and aggression.

The U.S. Administration believed that its decision to suspend dialogue with the PLO was a necessary step to push the peace process forward along the Shamir lines. It

also thought that the complete bias toward the Zionist enemy and the encouragement it gave it to commit more crimes and massacres against our Palestinian people could lead to a preparation for striking the valiant intifadah and isolating the Palestinian people's leadership and their sole legitimate representative, the PLO, from any forum or framework which places the issue of reaching a just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Zionist conflict at the top of its interests.

The European recommendations constitute a practical response to the U.S. and Zionist lies and affirm that the just and comprehensive solution to the Arab-Israeli dispute, as it appeared in the text of the statement, can only take place within the framework of an international conference held under the auspices of the United Nations and with the participation of the PLO. The Dublin statement also affirmed the importance of translating international interest in the Palestine question into practice by providing international protection to the Palestinian people under the Zionist occupation. In other words, the Dublin statement reaffirmed international responsibility in the field of defending the Palestinian individual's rights, which should not be undermined in any circumstance.

Naturally, this topic will worry the ruling circles in Washington and Tel Aviv. In other words, the Dublin statement set the basic lines for the aspired solution which goes along with, and even forms, a support and tributary for the Palestinian peace initiative and the achievements it has realized on the international level in general, and the European level in particular.

Therefore, the extensive U.S. and Zionist attempts to distance the international organization and the European community from the framework of solution were nothing but a confirmation of the belief that there is a possibility to impose a solution through the force of Zionist belligerence and its alliance with the successive U.S. administrations.

After all this, will the Americans take the advice, and will the Zionists follow suit, and admit that belligerence and hegemony are no more the languages of the age? Will they realize—before it is too late—that what cannot be propagated in Europe—the close ally of both sides—will only be met with resistence and steadfastness in the Arab region.

PLO Seeks To 'Reactivate' USSR, Europe Roles

JN2706175890 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member brother 'Abdallah Hurani has renewed the PLO's adherence to its peace initiative whose goal is to find a peaceful solution to the Palestine question. In a press statement released in Amman today, he said that the PLO is now seeking to reactivate the European and Soviet roles to support the peace march in the region. It also seeks a session of the UN General Assembly to discuss the Palestine question.

'Abd-Rabbuh on Arab Meeting, U.S. Dialogue

LD2706130490 Kuwait KUNA in English 1005 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Kuwait, June 27 (KUNA)—A high ranking Palestinian official said Wednesday that Arab foreign ministers will hold their extraordinary summit to discuss Washington's decision of suspending its dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization, after 'Id al-Adha [13 July].

Head of the Information Department at the PLO and member of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh said to daily AL-WATAN, published here, that the date of the meeting had not been set yet and is still under study by some Arab countries to enable them to negotiate the working agenda of the meeting that was scheduled to be held today (Wednesday).

He stressed that the aim behind the meeting is to reach decisions, not only denunciation of the U.S. He said these denunciations should be linked with tangible resolutions to confront the U.S. maneuvers that aim at encircling the gains won by the organization and weakening its political role.

He said that the PLO wants the foreign ministers to implement the decisions reached at the extraordinary Arab summit held in Baghdad last month and to refuse any endeavour from Washington to stop the PLO from participating political operation in the region [as received].

'Abd-Rabbuh disclosed that the U.S. Administration intends to continue suspending the dialogue with the PLO and instead will turn around by trying to hold indirect contacts through different parts, which the organization completely rejects.

The PLO official said that the U.S. decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO has nothing to do with the Palestinian seaborne attack on Israeli shores last May 30.

'Abd-Rabbuh headed the Palestinian delegation in its dialogue with the U.S. Administration, which started 18-months ago in Tunis. The U.S. decision to suspend its dialogue with the PLO was announced last week, on the pretext that the PLO did not denounce the Palestinian attack.

In conclusion, the PLO official said that the U.S. decision has political aims that come in coherence with the policy of the new Israeli Government headed by Yitzhaq Shamir.

Radio Reports, Comments on Arens-Frayj Meeting

JN2706200490 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The visit of the new Zionist war minister, terrorist Arens, to Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj has created a wave of resentment and condemnation among Palestinian citizens, who expressed their feelings by attacking the motorcade of the war minister and his escorts with Molotovs and by rejecting the demands that Mr. Frayj presented to Arens.

At 0900 yesterday, Arens visited the Bethlehem Municipality and met with the mayor for one hour. Arens was accompanied by Yitzhaq Mordekhay, the so-called commander of the central region; Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of the activities of the Zionist forces in the Palestinian West Bank and Gaza; and Shay Erez, the so-called chairman of the Civil Administration. The visit took place amid strict security measures in which the Zionist army forces used military helicopters.

The meeting was attended in addition to Ilyas Frayj by Bayt Sahur Mayor Hanna al-Atrash and Bayt Jala appointed Mayor Farah al-A'raj. Arens' visit falls within the efforts of the new Shamir government to meet with Palestinian figures in line with its policy to implant autonomy on the basis of the Camp David accords.

Mr. Frayj denied that the meeting had been arranged in advance. Meanwhile, the newspaper HADASHOT asserts in yesterday's issue that Frayj had met on Monday with Shmu'el Goren and Shay Erez as part of the preparations to form a Palestinian delegation to meet with Arens.

This is not the first time Frayj departs from the consensus of national figures in Palestine, the home of the intifadah and the revolution.

PFLP Condemns 26 Jun Arens-Frayj Meeting

JN2706201790 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] today strongly condemned the meeting that took place yesterday between Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens and Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj. The PFLP considered the meeting the result of Arens' attempts in the wake of the suspension of the American-Palestinian dialogue—within the framework of an American-Israeli scheme—to bypass the PLO. The PFLP added in a statement that the Palestinian people consider the PLO their sole, legitimate representative.

VOP Says Peace Initiative Among Many Options

JN2706205290 Baghdad Voice of the PLO in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Brothers, while the conflict is raging on various levels and [words indistinct], we should constantly stress the Palestinian principled constants which will continue to be a solid (?basis) for our militant action with its various legitimate manifestations. Firm adherence to the Palestinian peace initiative is one of our constants which we always stress. This initiative is not a tactical option good only for a particular stage. Nor is it an instrument of negotiation that can be discarded when negotiations fail to take place. This initiative, indeed, is our plan for a just solution and one of our most important strategic options. Moreover, we are struggling and waging this fierce conflict in order to achieve a just, comprehensive peace in our region. This must take place, however, on the basis of the full achievement of our national, legitimate rights, headed by the right to repatriation, self-determination, and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with holy Jerusalem as its capital.

Our adherence to the peace initiative and our continuous efforts to make it materialize and to reap its good fruit is adherence to our course, plan, and human, progressive option. However, all this does not mean, nor has it meant before, that our adherence to the peace initiative and earnest search for peace will be at the expense of our other options and the various means of national struggle. No, it has never been like that anytime. We do not want to go into details here because that might lead to currently inappropriate topics. We, however, are constantly interested in declaring that our strategic option is a just peace and that we will continue our struggle in its various forms until this peace is achieved [words indistinct].

Egypt

Further on 'Abd-al-Majid Visit to U.S.

Views Bush, Baker Meetings

JN2706191190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Huda Tawfiq dispatch from Washington]

[Text] Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid has telephoned President Yasir 'Arafat from Washington and informed him of President Bush's reaction to the ongoing effort to resume the American-Palestinian dialogue and of the U.S. Administration's commitment to resume the peace process on the basis of achieving a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue. In a statement to our radio station, 'Abd-al-Majid said that contacts will continue in coordination with the PLO for a resumption of the suspended dialogue between America and the PLO.

Before leaving for New York to meet with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, 'Abd-al-Majid said that his talks in the American capital were held at the right time, but he does not expect immediate results from the mission.

It is obvious that the United States still wants the PLO to publicly and clearly denounce the Tel Aviv incident and to take measures against Abu-al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] although Bush has opened the door to the possibility of resuming the dialogue once the PLO takes its measures.

[Begin recording] ['Abd-al-Majid] My meeting with President Bush and the round of talks with Secretary of State James Baker were useful and cordial. We will continue the contacts between our countries and work toward resuming the Palestinian-American dialogue to achieve the peace and stability sought by the people in the region.

[Tawfiq] After your meeting with the U.S. President, do you sense a readiness to resume the America-PLO dialogue? What are the conditions?

['Abd-al-Majid] I believe that the statement the American President made immediately after our meeting clarifies the known American stand. I believe that you heard this response. It contains an assertion of what I mentioned with regard to the desire to make a move, not to freeze the situation.

[Tawfiq] You have contacted President 'Arafat. Is there readiness on the PLO's part?

['Abd-al-Majid] Contacts continue with President Yasir 'Arafat and the Palestinian brothers. There has always been coordination between us [words indistinct]. And this will continue as long as there is a desire to achieve peace, and at the same time, to achieve the fraternal Palestinian people's legitimate demands. [end recording]

In another development, Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid welcomed the EC statement. He said this is positive because it condemns Israeli practices in the occupied territory and calls on Israel to respect human rights and the Geneva agreements.

Confers with Perez de Cuellar

NC2806064490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2150 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] New York, 27 Jun (MENA)—Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has stressed Egypt's support for the UN role in the Middle East peace process.

In a statement following his meeting with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar this evening, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid said the talks were extremely fruitful. He added that the discussions had dealt with Assistant Secretary General Jean-Claude Aime's mission in Israel and the outcome of his contacts with Israeli officials. During the meeting, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid stressed the need to secure UN protection for the Palestinians in the occupied territories.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister pointed out that he briefed the UN secretary general on his consultations with U.S. officials in Washington and the results of his meeting with President George Bush and Secretary of State James Baker. He said he had discussed with them the U.S. decision to suspend the dialogue with the PLO. He laid emphasis on the need to resume the dialogue and continue the efforts to achieve a comprehensive, lasting settlement in the Middle East.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid then met with the Arab ambassadors and briefed them on his talks with the UN secretary general and the role being played by Egypt to activate the peace process.

Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid is due to leave New York this evening for Rome, where he will meet with the Italian prime minister tomorrow, Thursday.

Shamir Message Seeks 'New Chapter' in Relations

JN2706182390 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] Informed Egyptian sources assert that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir yesterday sent an important message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. Shamir declared in the letter his government's commitment not to follow a definite policy to settle Soviet Jews in the occupied territory. He said that Israel wants these areas to become a factor of security and stability, and a motive for embarking on the pursuit of new Israeli-Arab relations. Shamir stressed that his government's basic course is to overcome the obstacles to the peace process. He stated that there is no advance Israeli intention to complicate the situation or to increase these obstacles.

Shamir said that the Israeli commitment not to settle the Jews in Judaea and Samaria, as he put it, does not mean

that Israel agrees to these areas becoming centers of Palestinian rioting and violence against Israeli security. He added that Israel calls on Egypt to agree on the basic content of the Camp David accords and the Israeli election plan. Shamir expressed hopes that a new chapter will open in relations between the two countries, in preparation for embarking on a direct and successful dialogue in order to lay the groundwork for final peace in the region between Israel and the Arab countries.

Mubarak 'Strongly' Rejects Shamir Request for Summit

JN2706183090 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Jun 90 p 1

[Text] AL-BAYAN has learned that President Mubarak has once again rejected a request from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir to hold a summit meeting in Taba to heal the situation resulting from the tension in relations following statements of a threatening nature from both sides.

Informed sources in Cairo told AL-BAYAN that President Mubarak strongly rejected the meeting. He said he was unwilling to meet with any Israeli official unless the Israeli Government relaxed its extremist policy.

The sources stated that the Israeli request was handed to Egypt via the Israeli Embassy in Cairo, as well as through U.S. diplomatic channels.

Ghali Comments on Liberian Situation

NC2706180290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1715 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 27 Jun (MENA)—Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has declared that Egypt is following up on current events in Liberia. Dr. Ghali added that Egypt urges the warring sides to spare the blood and accept the dialogue.

In a statement today, the minister of state for foreign affairs stressed that Egypt supports all the ongoing efforts to save lives and property. Dr. Ghali said that President Husni Mubarak, the present OAU chairman, supports the current talks in Freetown which aim to work out a peaceful solution and stabilize the situation in Liberia.

Guinean Minister Leaves; Joint Communique Issued

NC2706131690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Egypt and Guinea have asserted the importance of strengthening bilateral relations and cooperation in many fields. They also stressed their adherence to the principles and charter of the OAU, which is the framework for African joint action and solidarity.

This was contained in a joint communique issued today following Guinean Foreign Minister Jean Traore's visit to Egypt. The communique said that in their talks Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Guinean foreign minister discussed the agenda of the upcoming OAU summit. The two countries expressed satisfaction at the fact that their views on the topics to be discussed at this summit are identical. The two ministers also discussed the Senegalese-Mauritanian dispute. The Guinean foreign minister declared his country's support for the mediation efforts being undertaken by President Husni Mubarak, current chairman of the OAU, to settle this dispute.

The Guinean foreign minister left Cairo this morning following a four-day visit, during which he was received by President Mubarak. The Guinean official conveyed a message of friendship and brotherhood from the Guinean president to President Mubarak.

Foreign Ministry Welcomes EC Statement on Mideast

NC2606111490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Egypt has welcomed the EC stands on the Middle East peace march and the Palestinian issue. It said that these stands constitute one of the most important results of the positive changes brought about by the interaction between the intifadah movement inside the occupied territories and the Palestinian peace trends under the banners of moderation and pragmatism abroad.

This was stated by a responsible source in the Foreign Ministry in a comment on the statement by the EC summit in Dublin. The source said that the EC stands of support for the Palestinian people's rights are an example of a correct and objective understanding of just causes, predilection in favor of principles, and support for civilized values.

Mubarak Addresses Nile Basin Energy Ministers

NC2606085790 Cairo MENA in English 0852 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, June 28 (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak stressed the need for cooperation among African states to crystallise into regional and semi-regional projects, giving priority to promoting means of communications, developing energy and water sources besides increasing trade exchange and setting up an African common market.

In an address today to the conference of energy ministers of Nile Basin countries (UNDUGO), read out by state minister for foreign affairs Dr. Butrus Ghali, President Mubarak said that the conferees meet here today to lay the basis of a pioneer and ambitious plan aiming at linking power grids between Nile Basin countries in order to achieve integration in this field, and also to export energy to Europe.

Libya

Liaison Official on 'Hostile' U.S. Campaign

LD2806104890 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0915 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli 28 June (JANA)—A spokesman for the People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison and International Cooperation has commented on the contents of the political commentary broadcast yesterday evening by the Voice of America and which expresses the point of view of the U.S. Administration, and said:

At a time when we draw the world's attention to the U.S. Administration's dangerous tendencies, which have become quite clear in its flagrant hostility toward all that is Arab, in general, and Libyan, in particular, as there can be no doubt the U.S. Administration has fallen totally under the Zionist lobby's control and obeys the latter's orders, speaks on the latter's behalf, and acts according to the latter's plans, we wonder and are amazed. We wonder and are amazed that at a time when the Zionist media publish a report about the leakage of poisonous gas from one of the Zionist entity's chemical plants—a matter regarded as being an open and official admission the Zionist enemy does possess such plants—and at a time when the German paper DER SPIEGEL publishes a study by an American (?expert regarding) the Zionist gangs' crimes of terror against Palestinian children and the gangs' murder of the same, although they have committed no crime deserving of capital punishment—and this is the opinion of the American expert herself—we see the United States does nothing except maintain total silence. At the same time its media maintains a total blackout vis-a-vis the crimes of terror committed by the Zionist entity. On the other side of the scale voices are raised threatening Libya, in particular, and the Arab countries, in general because of unfounded rumors circulated by American, Zionist, and Western media.

The world fully knows the source of danger of chemical weapons is in fact in the USA (?and the Zionist) [word indistinct] in particular. Thus, the dimensions of the open hostile campaign by the U.S. Administration against Libya and some Arab countries in preparations for launching a (?campaign) against them, similar to the political and media campaign that preceded the U.S. aggression on the Jamahiriyah in the middle of the month of April 1986, are quite clear.

While we reaffirm that allegations regarding the manufacturing of chemical weapons and merely an entry point to carry out a hostile strategem against Libya and the Arab world, we would like to point out a fact which is known to the world: The Jamahiriyah is a signatory of the 1925 convention regarding the ban on the proliferation of chemical weapons, and it was one of the countries which effectively participated in last year's Paris conference which was held for this purpose.

At a time when we like to draw the attention of world public opinion, the regional and international organizations, and the peace-loving forces to these hostile intentions, which subject world peace and security to acute danger in this region of the world, we call on them to shoulder their responsibilities vis-a-vis this dangerous behaviour in international relations. We also reaffirm the Great Jamahiriyah's total right to self-defense against any aggression.

JANA Denies U.S. Reports on Chemical Factory

LD2706122890 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1125 GMT 27 Jun 9

[Text] The 'NEW YORK TIMES' and 'WASHINGTON TIMES' last week published fabricated news regarding Libya's intention to build a chemical factory in a region in the southern part of the country. Western media picked up these fabricated news and spread them in line with a U.S.-Zionist plan the objectives of which are obvious.

JANA's Arab affairs editor has stressed that these reports are not based on fact or reality [words indistinct]. The editor said that when we deny these reports we do that as a tautology; the world is no longer fooled by these lies and misinformation campaigns led by the Western media in line with a Zionist-U.S. plan that is hostile to the Arab nation. While we are exposing this campaign, we would like to reaffirm that the reports carried by these dubious media have no truth in them.

FRG Firms Linked to Second Poison Gas Plant

WA2806140690 For FRG reportage on construction of a poison gas plant near Sebha, see the Federal Republic of Germany section of the 27 June West Europe DAILY REPORT.

Al-Qadhdhafi Receives 'Arafat 27 Jun

LD2706132190 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution has received brother Yasir 'Arafat, the president of the state of Palestine. Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat had arrived in Tripoli yesterday evening on a visit to the great Jamahiriyah.

'Arafat Departs

LD2706174290 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1655 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli, 27 Jun, JANA—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat and the delegation accompanying him left Tripoli this afternoon after a visit to the Great Jamahiriyah.

Jordanian Embassy Inaugurated 23 June

JN2306133090 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 23 Jun 90

[Text] A celebration was held today when the flag of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan was raised at the building of the Jordanian Embassy in Tripoli, capital of the Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

The celebration was attended by representatives of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, the International Relations [Bureau], the Libyan Foreign Ministry, the Jordanian charge d'affaires, and the Jordanian parliamentary delegation, which is currently visiting Libya, and which comprises deputies Nayif al-Hadid, Salim al-Zu'bi, Shaykh 'Abd-al-Mun'im Abu-Zant, and a number of the Jordanian community in Libya.

Sudan

RCC Member Says No Chadians Fighting in Darfur

EA2706121490 Khartoum SUNA in English 1009 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum, 27 June (SUNA)—Member of the RCC [Revolution Command Council] and the political supervisor of Darfur Region, Gen al-Tijani Adam al-Tahir, has denied any presence of conflict between the Chadian Government and the Chadian opposition inside the Sudanese territories. In a press statement to the daily "AL-QUWWAT AL-MUSALLAHAH" [THE ARMED FORCES] of today, Gen Tijani expressed Sudan's readiness to mediate for solving the Chadian problem if asked to do so. He expressed Sudan's keenness for realizing stability in neighbouring Chad, affirming that Sudan will exer' no efforts for solving the Chadian conflict peacefully according to its declared policy towards neighbouring countries. [sentence as received]

Former Military Leaders Released From Detention

EA2606093690 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 25 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum 25 Jun (SUNA)—Some former military leaders and politicians, arrested in the aftermath of last March 26 coup attempt, were released, the daily "AL-INQADH AL-WATANI" reported today.

Former chief of staff Gen Mahdi Babu Nimr, Maj-Gen Fadlallah Burmah Nasir who [words indistinct] a member of ruling [words indistinct].

Ben Ali Receives European Parliament President

LD2706145990 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Excerpts] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali this morning received Enrique Baron Crespo, the president of the European Parliament, who said afterwards that the meeting was an opportunity for evaluating the current situation of relations between the European Community and Tunisia and between the EEC and the Arab Maghreb Union. [passage omitted]

An informed source pointed out that President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, who is the chairman of the Arab Maghreb Union, raised during the meeting the position of the Maghreb community in Europe and expressed anew his concern over the escalation of racial discrimination against this community in some member-countries of the EEC. The source added that the head of state called for the rights of Maghreb citizens to be safeguarded and that they should be treated in a manner equal to the level of the contribution they made and are still making to the advancement of the European economy.

President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali pointed out that the solution of the problem of migration lies in increasing investment and participation in the funding of development projects in the Maghreb countries. [passage omitted]

Kuwait

Israeli Planes Said in Turkey for Iraq Strike

LD2806074990 Kuwait KUNA in English 0711 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Kuwait, June 28 (KUNA)—Israeli warplanes are currently stationed in an American base in Turkey for an imminent strike on Iraq and the Palestinian positions here, a press report said here Thursday.

In a dispatch from Tunis, daily AL-ANBA' quoted "a well-informed" Arab source as saying the stationing of the Israeli warplanes comes within the framework of the continuous campaign launched against Iraq and an attempt to attack Palestinian forces which have been transferred there.

Palestinian sources in Tunis last month disclosed that all Palestinian armed forces have been moved to Iraq and Libya in accordance with a new Palestinian strategy, the paper said.

Sudan, Arab Republic of Yemen and Tunisia were hosting the Palestinian forces since they were evacuated from Lebanon in 1982.

Press Views U.S. Decision on PLO Dialogue

LD2806075990 Kuwait KUNA in English 0659 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Kuwait, June 28 (KUNA)—Two Kuwaiti dailies Thursday called for a strong Arab reaction against U.S. arrogance, arguing that its demands were totally unacceptable.

AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM said that American President George Bush's refusal to accept any Arab mediation to reverse his decision suspending dialogue with the PLO was unreasonable.

Bush insisted that the PLO should first denounce the Palestinian sea-borne attack on Tel Aviv beaches as a terrorist operation and expel Abu-Al-'Abbas, leader of the PLO faction that launched the operation, from the organization's executive committee.

Noting that such American stance was not new in the series of that superpower's dealings with the Arab world, the paper said that Washington was going too far in humiliating the Arabs and the organization only.

The paper said that Washington was "asking the Palestinian leadership, which gambled in the so-called Palestinian peace initiative, to stand before the whole world humiliated and acquiescent."

Another local paper asked Bush to advise Israeli Premier Yitzhaq Shamir rather than Palestinian President Yassir 'Arafat to stop violence.

English-language daily KUWAIT TIMES said that Bush should rather advise Shamir to emulate South African President De Klerk in his declared readiness to negotiate with the African National Congress [ANC] and to effect changes in his white minority ruled country.

The paper said that ANC leader Nelson Mandela in a recent meeting with Bush reserved to his organization the right to resort to armed struggle to end apartheid in South Africa.

It urged Bush to compare between the reform-minded De Klerk and intransigent Shamir and to persuade the latter to follow footsteps of the former, adding "blaming PLO and ANC for violence will not land him (Bush) anywhere."

Amir Cites Iran Quake in Reception Cancellation

LD2706130590 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. A statement from the Amiri Court.

In sympathy with the Muslim people of Iran in their painful affliction as a result of the destructive earthquake which led to thousands of Muslim victims, his highness the amir of the country will not receive well-wishers on the occasion of the 'Id [al-Adha], as has become customary with his highness.

Iraqi Envoy Gives Amir Saddam Husayn Message

LD2606121990 Kuwait KUNA in English 1051 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Kuwait, June 26 (KUNA)—His Highness the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah Tuesday received a message from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, content of which was not revealed.

The message was delivered by Iraqi Deputy Premier Sa'dun Hammadi during an audience with his highness the amir here today, where Deputy Premier and foreign Minister Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad and [the] Iraqi ambassador to Kuwait were present.

Hammadi arrived earlier today on the third leg of an Arab Gulf tour that has already covered Saudi Arabia and [the] United Arab Emirates.

Qatar

Petroleum Official on North Gas Field Development

JN2306182190 Manama WAKH in English 1550 GMT 23 Jun 90

[Text] Doha, June 23 (GNA)—Managing Director of Qatar General Petroleum Corperation (QGPC) Dr. Jabir al-Mirri has affirmed that the first stage of the north gas field development will be completed by the end of this year according to schedule.

In an interview with Qatari daily newspaper 'AL-SHARQ' published today, al-Mirri said 90 per cent of the first stage has been completed.

He added that the engineering works, purchase of materials and the manufacturing of equipment have been completed, noting that 85 per cent of construction, building works and drilling of 16 wells which will produce 800 million cubic feet of gas per day have been accomplished.

On the future plan worked out by the corporation for the development of the north field gas al-Mirri said it included long-term contacts for gas sales to a number of countries especially to Japan, South Asian countries and West Europe.

It also included the establishment of industrial projects based on the use of gas as a raw material and a source of energy for the production of materials such as ammonia, urea, methanol and ethylene, al-Mirri said.

Al-Mirri meanwhile expressed the hope that some of these projects would shortly be carried out adding that the corporation worked out plans for establishing new industries at Umm Sa'id [place-name as received] and a new industrial area at Ras Laffan [place-name as received] which is close to the north field.

Iraqi Envoy Conveys Message to Amir, Departs

JN2406172290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Jun 90

[Text] Doha, 24 Jun (WAKH)—Dr. Sa'dun Hammadi, member of the Iraqi Revolution Command Council and deputy prime minister, left Doha this afternoon after a short visit to Qatar. During his visit he delivered a message to His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Qatar, from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn.

The Iraqi envoy's visit is part of a tour of a Gulf countries to convey similar messages from Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Arabian Gulf leaders. The messages concern ways to reinforce bilateral relations and developments in the region.

Amir, Mubarak Discuss Arab Issues by Phone

JN2406202590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1810 GMT 24 Jun 90

[Text] Doha, 24 Jun (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani, amir of the State of Qatar, had a telephone conversation with Egyptian President Husni Mubarak this evening. GNA [GULF NEWS AGENCY] reported that during the call, they discussed both Arab and international developments and Arab issues of mutual interest.

United Arab Emirates

Iraq's Hammadi Holds Abu Dhabi News Conference

JN2406184190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1015 GMT 24 Jun 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Jun (INA)—Dr. Sa'dun Hammadi, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, held a news conference in Abu Dhabi yesterday in which he spoke about the situation in the international oil market.

In a statement to newsmen in the United Arab Emirates [UAE], Dr. Hammadi said the economies of oil-producing Arab countries depend on oil resources. In order to coordinate oil policies among these countries, Hammadi added, contacts and consultations are currently underway to arrive at a balanced policy that will protect Arab interests.

Hammadi added that all Arab countries are OPEC members, and that OPEC has defined a ceiling of production and stabilized prices at $18 per barrel. It is regrettable, however, that some countries have not abided by that ceiling. Moreover, there is a race to increase production and put it on the market. This has led to a surplus in supply and a decline in prices. Consequently, severe harm has been inflicted on oil-producing countries.

Hammadi said that this narrow-mindedness harms Arab countries. We have been trying, therefore, to exert efforts and hold consultations and dialogue to convince Arab countries to abide by the quotas defined by OPEC for each state, Hammadi added.

He went on to say that according to OPEC decisions, the UAE's quota in 1988 was 948,000 barrels per day. This quota was later raised to 988,000 barrels per day at the end of 1989. The UAE, however, rejected this quota and began producing more. After further deliberations, OPEC decided to make the UAE's quota 1.095 million barrels per day at the beginning of 1990. The UAE has not abided by this either, and has asked to have the same quota as that allotted to Kuwait, which amounts to 1.5 million barrels per day, saying the UAE will abide by this quota. From the beginning of this year until now, the UAE has been producing 2.1 million barrels per day.

Hammadi explained that not abiding by the allotted quotas has caused prices to decline to $14 or $14.5 per barrel. The real value of this is less than it should be when we compare it with the prices of commodities bought by oil-producing countries from industrial countries, because the prices of these commodities increase annually by 18-20 percent. The value of the current price of oil is also far less than it was in the seventies, considered in real terms. This means we are buying with the current price of oil fewer commodities than we did in the seventies.

Hammadi stressed that this is unfair and does not serve the Arab economic interests, at a time when we are not able to maintain a price of $18. This causes severe harm to us. This means that every $1 drop loses Iraq $1 billion annually.

Therefore, Hammadi added, we have decided to initiate consultations and dialogue with Arab countries. We met with Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE. We raised this issue, and the president displayed understanding of our viewpoint. Hammadi said the UAE does not want to cause harm to Iraq or to any Arab country. This should be made public to all Arab countries. We must work out a solution to this issue through dialogue and discussion in the interest of the Arabs.

Lebanese President Al-Hirawi Continues Visit

Comments on Talks

JN2706122590 Abu Dhabi Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] An official round of talks was held at the Presidential Palace this morning between His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, head of state; and His Excellency President Ilias al-Hirawi, president of the Republic of Lebanon.

Meanwhile, the Lebanese president has praised the key role played by His Highness Shaykh Zayid to help Lebanon out of its crisis. Speaking after meeting Arab ambassadors to the United Arab Emirates, al-Hirawi thanked Shaykh Zayid for urging the Arabs in 1988 to move without delay to save Lebanon. Al-Hirawi said he had asked the ambassadors to inform their sisterly Arab countries that Lebanon is not interested in becoming entangled in regional problems, but wants them to help Lebanon end the war going on in its territory—a war fought by proxy and not properly Lebanese.

The president said he told the ambassadors our Arab brothers will help generously toward funding the international fund for the relief of Lebanon, decreed by last month's emergency summit in Baghdad to help rebuild the country's infrastructure devastated by the war.

Al-Hirawi said he explained the aims of rebuilding a national Lebanese Army. He listed these as the liberation of southern Lebanon from Israeli occupation and the peaceful reassertion of state control over all Lebanese territory in order for Lebanon to become an effective member of the Arab group and a bridge between East and West.

Source Comments on Funding

JN2706202990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1720 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Jun (WAKH)—Commenting on the official round of talks held this morning between United Arab Emirates [UAE] President Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan and Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi, a responsible UAE source said that the two leaders exchanged views on Lebanese developments, diplomatic moves currently under way to settle the Lebanese problem, and ways to implement the al-Ta'if accord, which seeks to achieve national reconciliation, bolster legitimate authority, and restore peace and stability to the land of fraternal Lebanon.

The source added that the Lebanese president briefed His Highness Shaykh Zayid on the legitimate authority's efforts and also on its contacts with the parties concerned with the Lebanese issue inside and outside Lebanon on both the Arab and international levels to help restore stability and normalize life in Lebanon.

The source noted that the Lebanese president explained to his UAE counterpart the role expected of the Lebanon reconstruction fund and how this fund can be supported by Arab and foreign countries. The source added that His Highness Shaykh Zayid had asserted that the UAE had supported the fraternal Lebanese people in the past and would continue to do so to help ensure their stability and security, to support the legitimate authority, and to back the al-Ta'if accord.

The source pointed out that the UAE will not hesitate to do all that it can to help secure the welfare and happiness of the Lebanese people. He added that the UAE will be at the forefront of the countries contributing to the Arab and international fund for Lebanon's reconstruction. The source went on to say that the Lebanese president thanked His Highness Shaykh Zayid for his prominent and effective role in supporting Lebanon and its stability.

The responsible source concluded by saying that the talks also dealt with current Arab and international developments, the current challenges facing the Arab nation, and ways to achieve Arab solidarity and enhance joint Arab action.

Addresses Lebanese Community

JN2806064790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1800 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 27 Jun (WAKH)—Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi has urged all Lebanese parties to brush aside violence, support the legitimate authority, and opt for constructive and objective dialogue as the proper course to achieve peace in Lebanon.

In a meeting with a delegation of the Lebanese community in the United Arab Emirates [UAE] this morning, al-Hirawi said that Lebanon has been placed on the road leading to peace, that the legitimate Lebanese authority opens its doors wide to welcome every Lebanese individual regardless of what he has done against his country and people, and accepts opposition provided that [words indistinct].

Al-Hirawi affirmed that the only path leading to Lebanon's salvation lies in using reason and opting for diplomacy, negotiations, and dialogue. He said that the violence over the past 15 years brought only death and devastation.

He wondered how it would be possible for the legitimate authority to extend its authority on Lebanese territory while militias maintain their presence on the ground.

President al-Hirawi defended the al-Ta'if accord. He said that although this accord might not satisfy everybody, it remains the right way to a solution and to reconciliation and peace in Lebanon. He urged all Lebanese parties to join the authority in expressing support for this accord.

The Lebanese president expressed the hope that all Lebanese will work with the legitimate authority and within the framework of the al-Ta'if accord to crystallize a future perspective that would help make Lebanon a sanctuary for all the Lebanese "excluding the presence of anybody other than Lebanese on Lebanese soil."

On the motives behind the Lebanese Government's efforts to build a nationalist army, the Lebanese president said that Lebanon wants to see UN Security Council Resolution 425 implemented. A strong Lebanese army would help liberate southern Lebanon from the Israeli enemy, he added. Besides, Lebanon wants the army and the police force to extend their authority over the Lebanese territory and to ensure peace for its citizens, al-Hirawi said.

President al-Hirawi affirmed that a single voice must be heard in Lebanon during the next phase—the voice of patriotism, considering that in the past two or more voices could be heard. The Lebanese president noted that the aim of his UAE visit is to extend thanks to His Highness Shaykh Zayid for his stands vis-a-vis Lebanon and for taking the initiative of launching an appeal for saving Lebanon and ending its ordeal.

Leaves Abu Dhabi 27 Jun

JN2806065090 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2022 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Abu Dhabi, 27 Jun (WAKH)—Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi left Abu Dhabi this evening after an official visit to the United Arab Emirates. [passage omitted]

50 Tonnes of Aid Sent to Quake Areas in Iran

JN2706171990 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, June 27 (GNA)—Planes left Abu Dhabi today for Iran with 50 tonnes of medical and food items, clothing and blankets, deputy chairman of the Red Crescent Society 'Id Khamis al-Muhyiri said.

"The society has received detailed reports about the needs of the quake victims in Iran," he said.

In Dubayy four other planeloads of relief aid left for Iran as part of urgent aid ordered by Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince's of Dubai [as received] Shaykh Maktum Bin-Rashid Al Maktum.

'Id Al-Adha Cancelled To Mourn Quake Victims

JN2806095690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0530 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 27 Jun (WAKH)—It was announced here this evening that His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, president of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], has ordered that the blessed 'Id al-Adha festivities be cancelled. [passage omitted]

An official source said in a statement carried by WAM [Wakalat Anba' al-Imarat—Emirates News Agency] that this is in sympathy with the Iranian people's painful calamity as a result of the earthquake which claimed thousands of Muslim victims.

Yemen Arab Republic

Government-Opposition Contacts Said Deadlocked

JN2306144690 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 21 Jun 90 p 22

[By Manda'i Dayyan]

[Text] Aden—Contacts between the government and opposition political parties and forces seem to be deadlocked. The dialogue, set to have gotten under way last Saturday [16 June], has yet to begin. The 45-member Consultative Council is expected to play a key role in breaking the stalemate on the Yemeni political scene. The council is to convene for its first session in Sanaa today, Thursday, under Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council.

Meanwhile, the past three weeks have seen further splits within the opposition parties. This has been more pronounced in the ranks of the Ba'thists with four factions, and the Nasirites eight. There has also been a schism in the league of the "Sons of Yemen". There are as many as 30 political parties and organizations in the Republic of Yemen now.

In another development, AL-WATAN has learned that in addition to the 50 million dinars [country of currency not specified] publicly promised to the nascent Yemeni state following President Saddam Husayn's Yemeni visit, Iraq will make available to the Yemeni Armed Forces financial and material aid.

Al-Iryani Cited on U.S. Decision, Israeli Plans

JN2606150090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] In a statement in today's edition the newspaper AL-AMAL, Foreign Minister brother Dr. 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani said that our country supports the PLO request to hold a meeting of the Arab League Council tomorrow evening, Wednesday, 27 July. The meeting has been called to discuss adopting a unified Arab response to the U.S. decision to suspend dialogue with the PLO, and to take measures against the Zionist plans to intensify repression.

terrorism, and killing of the Palestinian people in the occupied homeland in order to crush their intifadah.

The foreign minister also said that the current situation in the Middle East is very serious in view of recent developments. He added that the U.S. position on the situation in this region is worsening as a result of Zionist control of U.S. decisionmaking and that the balance of deterrence that used to exist and had saved the region from explosion many times, was now absent. He went on to say that tension in the Middle East automatically affects the Red Sea and Indian Ocean region.

Salih, King Fahd Discuss Arab Issues by Phone

JN2706180590 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, and his brother King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Saudi Arabian monarch and custodian of the two holy mosques, had a telephone conversation last night during which they exchanged views on Arab concerns in light of current developments in the Arab arena and issues of mutual interest.

President Salih Visits Hadramawt Governorate

JN2806083090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The city of Say'un in the governorate of Hadramawt was the scene of a big speech rally preceded by popular marches which came from all parts of the governorate to welcome the arrival of Presidential Council Chairman Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and those accompanying him.

The Presidential Council chairman delivered a speech at the festivities in which he welcomed the massive popular rally of the sons of Hadramawt with greetings of the revolution and the republic. He pointed out that the aim of his visit to Hadramawt, along with a number of officials from the Presidential Council, the government, and the Armed and Security Forces, is to inspect the situation of the citizens in the governorate and find out first hand what their needs and aspirations are. [passage omitted]

On their way to Say'un, the Presidential Council chairman and those accompanying him visited the Martyr 'Abbas Camp and met with individuals, officers, and ranks of the camp and congratulated them on the unity of the Yemeni homeland. The president also affirmed the appreciation of the political leadership and government for the heroic role of the Armed and Security Forces, its continuing action to entrench and strengthen unity, and its efforts to place concern for and development of the Armed and Security Forces at the top of its priority list in appreciation of this heroic national institution. [passage omitted]

Presidential Council Chairman Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih and his delegation also visited the Martyr Taysir Camp and delivered a directive speech to the individuals there. [passage omitted]

Last night, Presidential Council Chairman Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih met with the ulema, chieftains, and men of letters in the city of Say'un within the framework of his meetings with various sectors of the people in Wadi Hadramawt. [passage omitted]

Brother Lt. Gen. 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih praised the role of the ulema who set an example for rectification and correct behavior and who guide the people to the path of righteousness. He affirmed the interest of the political leadership in the progress of the Yemeni homeland and in all issues proposed during the meeting and its efforts to rectify matters and redress past mistakes in accordance with a list of priorities and necessities. He affirmed the importance of combining everyone's efforts to overcome all past mistakes with a spirit of national responsibility and concern for affirming national unity, to avoid being dragged into mistakes of the past, and to turn over a new leaf to build the homeland on bases of trust in manifestation of the aspirations and hopes of our people to build their happy future.

He affirmed that the political leadership will do its utmost to deal with the citizens' issues and provide what is required in their regions, especially those regions that have been deprived in the past, in accordance with the available resources. [passage omitted]

Aircraft Carries Relief Supplies to Iran

JN2506201090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25

[Text] A special plane carrying medical and other supplies to help the relief operation in the aftermath of the earthquake that hit Iran left Sanaa today. The consignment—comprising tents, blankets, clothing, medicines, and cooking utensils—is accompanied by brother Dr. 'Abdallah Hamud al-Khalifi, secretary general of the Yemen Red Crescent Society.

Plane With Relief Aid for Iran Leaves Baghdad

JN2706151190 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] A special Iraqi plane loaded with aid for Iran left Baghdad today. This aid includes the medicine and medical supplies Iraq decided to send to Iran to contribute to the relief efforts under way to assist those afflicted in the earthquakes that recently hit Iran.

No Agreement Reached in Waters Sharing Meeting

JN2806070590 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 0400 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] The meetings of the second round of the tripartite ministerial committee among Iraq, Syria, and Turkey to discuss their common waters concluded last night.

Agriculture and Irrigation Minister 'Abd-al-Wahhab Mahmud, chairman of the Iraqi side to the committee, said in a press statement in Ankara that no agreements were reached as a result of this meeting, even though the Iraqi delegation had made many suggestions, including increasing the amount of water flowing from the Ataturk Dam, which currently is 500 cubic meters a minute, to no less than 700 cubic meters a minute.

He said that the Iraqi delegation also submitted fair measures and bases for dividing the Euphrates River waters and set a time frame for this purpose, which is until the end of 1990.

The tripartite meetings began in Ankara the day before yesterday with the participation of the Iraqi agriculture and irrigation minister, Syrian water and irrigation minister, and Turkish public works and housing minister.

Al-Jalabi Criticizes UAE Oil Production Policy

JN2606155790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1020 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jun (INA)—For several months, oil markets have been in serious trouble, leading to a sharp drop in oil prices—by more than $7 from their highest average at the beginning of this year. This is because there are large supplies of oil and some countries have exceeded their production quotas specified by OPEC.

INA asked Oil Minister 'Isam al-Jalabi to explain this issue following the reaction by Dr. Mani' Bin-Sa'id al-'Utaybah, Emirian minister of petroleum and natural resources, to calls on the United Arab Emirates [UAE] to abide by its production quota and the OPEC agreement. Al-Jalabi said:

In our reply last Friday, 22 June, on the causes of the current crisis in oil markets and the serious fall in oil prices, as we have just mentioned, we said the main cause lies in the refusal of the UAE to abide by its production quota and OPEC agreements concluded since early 1989. This was also repeated in the latest OPEC agreement in November 1989, which was approved by 12 countries, except the UAE, which rejected the agreement and demanded a large production quota of 2 million barrels per day [bpd] compared with 1.095 million bpd. The UAE has continued to produce 2 million bpd since 1989.

It seems that this indisputable fact has not satisfied Dr. Mani' Bin-Sa'id al-'Utaybah, who announced at his news conference last Saturday, 22 July, that he rejects what he called accusations and said the UAE also rejects threats and pressures from any source.

Following the historic November 1988 agreement among 13 countries allowing equal quota productions for Iraq and Iran, a new phase of improvement in average prices began after many years because of the growing demand for oil and the new hope that accompanies an international commitment to quotas.

However, since early 1989, Kuwait and the UAE have called for an increase in their quotas. Although they have been exceeding their production ceilings since then, the other member states have worked to reach an agreement on this issue through meetings of the ministerial council and the Iraqi committee and bilateral and tripartite meetings in November 1989. These meetings led to a new agreement to raise the [OPEC] production ceiling to 22 million bpd and to guarantee a production quota of 1.5 million bpd for Kuwait, which represents an increase of 50 percent over its previous quota.

As the UAE has rejected a similar solution granting it a quota of 1.5 million bpd, and as it has said its production should be much higher than that of Kuwait—for reasons we hope Dr. al-'Utaybah will clarify—OPEC has decided to maintain the UAE's quota at 1.095 million bpd and to work to convince the UAE to endorse an agreement for a production quota of 1.5 million bpd. This quota was taken into consideration when the production ceiling was defined and was seen by many specialists as a higher level than could guarantee the required price level.

Despite these negative actions, very rapid and positive developments took place when the average price of the OPEC oil basket reached $20.56 in the first week of 1990, which enraged some people who complained that the rise in oil prices harmed their countries with high reserves. They demanded and exerted efforts to lower the price through flooding the market with oil. Therefore, exceeding the production quotas continued, primarily by the UAE—as Dr. al-'Utaybah himself admitted in his statement—so that at one point, they reached a production level of 2.6 million bpd.

Today, now that the prices of the OPEC oil basket have fallen below $14 per barrel and the revenues of most Arabian Gulf oils have fallen to less than $10 per barrel, any person can simply conclude that what happened was a deliberate attempt to harm the interests of all oil producing countries, as well as their neighbors. Why should the UAE produce 2 million bpd at $10 instead of producing 1.5 million barrels at 18 dollars or more? Which brings in greater revenues? If the UAE needs large

financial revenues to cover its needs, as Dr. al-'Utaybah repeatedly claims on every occasion, then which of the two alternatives brings in greater revenue? We need lessons in multiplication.

What we have called for frankly and clearly demands—and not for the first time—that there be a comprehensive agreement among the 13 member countries on total and exact commitment to the production quotas and that the agreement be balanced by defining reasonable production ceilings and quotas, and consequently a reasonable oil price, especially since the organization fixed the minimum price indicator at not less than $18 at the end of 1986, which today is actually equivalent to less than $15. This situation is not in the interest of any producing country when taking economic considerations into account. Therefore, the goal of maintaining this indicator has become illogical. Consequently, changing it to take into consideration the factors of inflation and devaluation of purchasing power of the barrel must be done immediately.

Responding to another question to INA on the request of some countries to increase their production quotas, Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Jalabi said it was illogical to call for an increase in production ceiling or quotas today with oil prices as they are, because that would undoubtedly mean that some would insist on keeping prices at levels that are falling. We believe that the ceiling should not be increased until the direction of prices is rectified and the minimum price of $18 currently decided upon is adjusted first. This would cure the inflation taking place. Therefore, it is not logical that during the next OPEC conference on 25 July any decision be made to increase the ceiling. We should maintain the current ceiling after adjusting it partially so that the UAE will adhere to its production quota as we explained earlier. The total production ceiling's decrease must not be ruled out altogether so as to rectify the direction of prices first and to absorb the excess and stored reserves that have become stockpiled as a result of flooding the market.

In another comment, Mr. 'Isam al-Jalabi expressed surprise that some people consider the number of barrels they produce a measure of their size and status, even if that means giving one out of every three barrels away for nothing—as is happening today—in comparison with the beginning of this year.

The losses now, in light of the fall in prices, amounts to almost $150 million dollars a day to OPEC countries, or the equivalent of $5 billion dollars a month. Those suffering the most are the Arab countries with high production, primarily the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Iraq, in addition to the UAE and Kuwait.

Who is the winner and who is the loser, and in whose favor is this behavior?

Iraqi-Bulgarian Joint Committee Begins Meetings

JN2806053790 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad—Meetings of the 21st session of the Iraqi-Bulgarian joint committee for economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation began in Baghdad today.

Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih headed the Iraqi side to the talks, while Bulgarian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Petur Bashikarov led the Bulgarian side.

In a speech at the outset of the talks, the trade minister affirmed Iraq's eagerness to develop ties with Bulgaria and its desire to find new areas for expanding bilateral trade in the interest of both friendly states.

For his part, Petur Bashikarov paid tribute to the unique leadership of His Excellency President Saddam Husayn and praised his role in enhancing ties between the two frinedly countries in all spheres. He also asserted his country's sincere desire to overcome the difficulties that stand in the way of developing bilateral ties in order to bolster bilateral cooperation.

During the talks, two committees were formed. The first will focus on trade and financial matters; the second will tackle issues pertaining to economic, scientific, and technical cooperation. The two committees were charged with considering the issues that will be discussed by the committee in its current session.

Sa'dun Hammadi Returns Home Following Gulf Tour

JN2606173490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 26 Jun (INA)—Sa'dun Hammadi, Revolution Command Council member, deputy prime minister, and President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brothers King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, Saudi Arabian monarch and custodian of the two holy mosques, and Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir, returned to Baghdad this evening.

During his visit, which included the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, President Saddam Husayn's envoy delivered messages from his excellency to his brother King Fahd Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz and His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah dealing with fraternal relations among the three Arab countries.

Shamir Answers Bush Letter on Peace Process

TA2806074490 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 28 Jun 90 pp 1, 14

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, Washington correspondent Rami Tal, and Smadar Peri]

[Excerpts] U.S. opposition to settlement in the territories was translated into action yesterday when the head of Congress' Appropriations Committee warned Israel that, if settlement continues, foreign aid from the United States will be affected.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sent his answer to President Bush yesterday. The tone of the letter is friendly, but it is negative about the participation of deportees and East Jerusalem Arabs in the Palestinian delegation to talks with Israel.

Another message was sent by Shamir to Mubarak containing a commitment to stick to the election plan. [passage omitted]

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir sent President George Bush a political message last night aimed at summing up Israel's stand on the peace process and in response to the U.S. President's letter. In his seven-page letter, Shamir calls on the United States to continue promoting the Middle East peace process based on the guidelines of the Israeli Government's initiative of May 1989.

The message was prepared in consultation with Foreign Minister David Levi; his deputy, Binyamin Netanyahu; and Justice Minister Dan Meridor and was worded by Yosi Ben-Aharon, the director general of the Prime Minister's Office.

Sources in Jerusalem said Shamir answers in great detail and in a friendly tone the points raised by President Bush in his message to the prime minister. Shamir reconfirmed that his new government remains committed to the peace initiative adopted by the unity government, but that he opposes the participation of deportees and East Jerusalem Arabs in talks with Israel.

The letter does not contain an unequivocal answer to Secretary Baker's question to the Israeli Government about its readiness to enter into a dialogue with a Palestinian delegation made up of inhabitants of the territories. The sources believe that the answers provided by Shamir will not satisfy the U.S. Administration.

Meanwhile, Secretary of State Baker told a closed circle that he regretted the blunt way he addressed Israel in the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee. Baker was referring to his "telephone number speech," in which he said that when the Israelis are serious about the peace process they should call the White House.

Our correspondent Smadar Peri adds that Prime Minister Shamir dispatched an additional message to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on Tuesday night, stressing his commitment to the election plan in the territories and saying that there is no intention or plan to settle new immigrants in the territories.

Moshe Arad, Israel's ambassador in Washington, yesterday met with Secretary of State Baker, who gave the ambassador an oral message for the prime minister and foreign minister. Arad left for Israel last night and on his arrival will hold a round of consultations with the prime minister, foreign minister, and senior officials.

Arad refused to provide details on the contents of the Baker message, but reliable U.S. sources said Baker again called on Israel not to delay any longer its response to the question posed to it in February on the composition of the Palestinian delegation.

[Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew on 28 June in a related report on page 3 by Ilan Kfir, Gay Bekhor, and Yo'el Esteron in Washington adds that "Israeli sources in Washington" said that Secretary Baker's message to Prime Minister Shamir and Foreign Minister Levi was "personal, friendly, and positive." The report also says that Minister Levi "wants to reach a written agreement with Baker on the principles for advancing the political process. In this framework, he wants an official U.S. commitment that Israel will not be forced to negotiate with the PLO and that a Palestinian state will not be set up in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip."]

Radio Details 'Parts' of Response

TA2806110190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] There is no doubt that already tonight the White House will carefully and meticulously read each and every word in Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's reply to President Bush's letter sent to Jerusalem two weeks ago in which he urged the Israeli Government to promote the political process. Our political correspondent Arye Golan reports on the contents of the prime minister's missive:

The prime minister's reply to President Bush is lengthy and detailed and is worded in very friendly language. It expresses great appreciation for the efforts the United States has invested so far to promote the peace process.

The message includes three main parts: the settlement question, peace between Israel and its neighbors, and the meeting with Palestinians in Cairo. On the most intriguing question—the inclusion of deportees and East Jerusalem Arabs in the Palestinian delegation to a dialogue with Israel—the prime minister voices his reservations. Shamir writes to Bush: We are prepared to continue to act in coordination with Secretary of State Baker to promote a dialogue with a Palestinian delegation which would be compiled on a name by name basis but, as you know, Mr. President, we have reservations about including deportees and Arabs from East Jerusalem in the Palestinian delegation. In other words, as Foreign Minister David Levi stated at the beginning of this week: yes to Baker, no to his questions.

In his message, the prime minister states that the Arab countries' refusal to terminate the state of war and make peace with Israel lies at the heart of the conflict in the region. Mr. Shamir stresses that, as the Israeli Government sees it, the main thrust of the efforts should now be devoted to attaining peace between Israel and the Arab countries. This is the point that is most emphasized in Shamir's message. [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 28 June on pages A1 and A4 carries a similar report by 'Aqiva Eldar and Ori Nir, adding that "the prime minister's message includes a demand that in a bid to widen the circle of peace, negotiations between Israel and the Arab countries and the dialogue with the Palestinians should be conducted simultaneously."]

The prime minister goes on to declare that Israel does not have a policy of directing immigrants to settle in the territories. Furthermore, the prime minister writes, the government in Jerusalem is of the opinion that the settlements are not an obstacle to peace.

Shamir's message will be delivered to President Bush in the White House today. But even before that, Secretary of State Baker conveyed to Ambassador Moshe Arad, upon his departure for Israel, a message responding to the response to the effect that the United States might contemplate alternatives to the meeting with Palestinians in Cairo.

Officials in Jerusalem are now waiting to see how Washington reacts to the Israeli response with regard to the composition of the Palestinian delegation. Indeed, will President Bush now pull out of the drawer the prepared speech in which Israel will be accused of curbing the peace process?

Shamir's Office on U.S. Warning To Cut Aid

TA2806112390 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] The Prime Minister's Office expresses sorrow over the warning issued in Washington that aid to Israel will be cut if the government decides to set up new settlements. Yosi Ben-Aharon, director general of the Prime Minister's Office, said he hopes the issue will be struck off the agenda of relations between Jerusalem and Washington.

He refused to react to reports that there are plans to set up new settlements, saying there is no sense in dwelling on the matter, because this would only exaggerate its importance. Avi Pazner, the prime minister's adviser on media affairs, rejected the reports, calling them speculation. Nevertheless, he confirmed that there is no decision to prevent the expansion of existing settlements.

David Obey, chairman of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee, has said that if Israel expands or sets up even one additional settlement, he will support a cut in next year's aid to Israel to reflect the expenditures on settlements.

Meridor Interviewed on U.S., Elections Plan

TA2806082590 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Telephone interview with Justice Minister Dan Meridor by Mikha Friedman and Gilat Levi—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good morning, Justice Minister Dan Meridor.

[Meridor] Good morning.

[Friedman] The United States is not softening its position for the time being, and Baker's question to Israel is still valid and pending an answer. How will Shamir's belated reply to Bush reverse the U.S. position, as the prime minister predicted only two days ago?

[Meridor] The prime minister's reply to President Bush will be read by President Bush, and I will certainly not go into details. It seems to me, however, that if the U.S. suspension of the dialogue with the PLO turns out to be a permanent and genuine move, a significant contribution will have been made toward progress on the peace process. In fact, this was the real dispute between us and the Americans; whether the PLO would dominate, take over the process, and lead it in directions we believe we would not be able to live with, or whether the process in which we are greatly interested could be advanced without the PLO. It seems to me that now that the PLO is out of the process there are more chances of advancing it.

[Levi] George Bush's message was that if they do not get a positive reply to Baker's question the Americans would contemplate alternatives, including an international conference. Are you fearful of such alternatives?

[Meridor] We have heard similar things more than once in the past, and our position concerning an international conference is clear and well known. We do not want to stand alone and face the whole world, the superpowers and all the Arab countries. In my opinion, this is a foolproof recipe not for success but for failure or, God forbid, for an Israeli capitulation which will never occur. Therefore, I hope this is not the policy that will be adopted. I hope the Americans, together with us, will continue to pursue the path that is fraught with inevitable differences in order to advance negotiations, a dialogue, elections in Judaea and Samaria, self-rule, and all the points specified in our plan. [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0405 GMT on 28 June carries a similar interview with the justice minister. Asked by Shalom Qital to comment on the strident hints that the U.S. Administration is looking for alternatives to the peace process which may not necessarily benefit Israel, Meridor says: Relations between Israel and the United States undergo occasional ups and downs. It is true that different moods prevail in Washington and that statements are occasionally made that are not encouraging to us. But if one looks at deeds, such as last night's decision by the House of Representatives, or the entire fabric of relations—their security, political, and other aspects—I think we have no better friends in the world than the

Americans, despite all that is being said now. At the same time, there have been occasional differences of opinion concerning the peace process. These should not surprise anyone or prevent us from treading the path conducive to a peace agreement and a solution of the conflict. Meridor goes on to say: We and the Americans may differ on various issues and details pertaining to this path, but it seems to me that in the eyes of the U.S. Administration as well, the Israeli plan is the only plan that can be advanced in a bid to get something moving.]

[Friedman] Under such conditions—if the PLO is out of the process for good, as you hope is the case—will Israel agree to a meeting with a Palestinian delegation that would include former deportees and inhabitants of East Jerusalem?

[Meridor] First of all, even if the PLO is out of the process, the main thing is to understand that we are interested in a meeting between ourselves and the Arabs of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. The question we should ask ourselves is: Where do we want this process to lead? The current situation cannot remain unchanged and has to move in one direction or the other, whatever one's views may be.

[Friedman] Over the last two weeks, since entering office, Defense Minister Moshe Arens has reportedly held talks with local leaders in the territories. Has he already found some Palestinians who are prepared to talk directly with Israel without the backing and support of the PLO in Tunis?

[Meridor] I think the meetings held by Mr. Arens, in his capacity as defense minister, with inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza are of the utmost importance. One cannot expect a turnabout to occur overnight, but I think this trend is very important and should be pursued intensively. We want to start a dialogue, but who is our interlocutor? We say that it is not the PLO. If not the PLO, then who? The real partners are the 1.5 million people who live next to us, 100 meters, one or five km away from us. They exist and they cannot be ignored. Seeing that the PLO is not interested in any kind of process leading to some sort of stability, not to mention peace—a process that does not settle the question of the right of return and all the other PLO demands that would be tantamount to the damnation of Israel—we must insist on our proposal for direct talks in these meetings with the inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza—some of which are publicized and some which are not—in order to bring about a dramatic change. In my opinion, they are being offered a dramatic change in their situation. Admittedly, this change does not include a comprehensive solution of the conflict, because that would call for the participation of the Arab countries.

I think the policy I have proposed and talked about on more than one occasion is correct and realistic. I think the United States would support such a policy because it has no reason to oppose it. On the contrary, it is compatible with our plan. If the defense minister is going in that direction, I think he should be commended for it.

[Friedman] Amen.

Shamir on Immigration, U.S. Refusal To See Levi

TA2706051090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0405 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has said that Israel's security situation places an onus on the state budget and precludes the attainment of the proper achievements with regard to aliyah. Nevertheless, Shamir said, Israel will do everything in its power to help the thousands of immigrants coming to the country. The prime minister was speaking at a festive dinner in honor of the 'Ezer Mitziyon Society, an assistance center for the ill and needy set up by Rabbi Eli'ezer Schach. Our correspondent Mikha'el Tuchfeld interviewed Prime Minister Shamir at the end of his speech:

[Begin recording] [Tuchfeld] The prime minister said Israel must begin absorbing immigrants, and is doing so willingly and enthusiastically. Thousands of immigrants are coming, and we are offering them our help. This help, however, comes from public coffers, which are insufficient to cover the sums needed for welfare, for maintaining normal living standards, and for helping all the underprivileged people and blue collar workers in our society.

[Shamir] It is clear, however, that we will not absorb aliyah at the expense of our care for old-time Israelis, young married couples, and Army veterans. Neither will we discriminate against immigrants because of the need to see to the welfare of old-time Israelis. We have no choice but to care for both.

[Tuchfeld] Turning to the political issue, the prime minister said that the U.S. refusal to invite Foreign Minister David Levi for an official visit does not attest to a break in relations between the two countries.

[Shamir] I do not think there is a break, and I suppose the foreign minister and others will be invited by the U.S. Government. It is known to all that there are problems, but I hope that in due course, after we clarify all the calls for clarification and settle all the differences of opinion between Israel and the United States, relations will improve and go back to what they used to be.

[Tuchfeld] As for the foreign minister's remarks that he is prepared to say yes to Baker but not to his questions, Shamir said:

[Shamir] Well, that is a statement which may be given different interpretations, but it is not up to me to interpret Minister Levi's utterances. We will yet have opportunities to explain his remarks. [end recording]

Editorial Dismisses Sharon's Settlement Remarks

TA2706145890 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 27 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Israeli Talk...In the Air"]

[Text] It seems that the new right-wing government, headed by Yitzhaq Shamir, has begun responding to tactical requirements in confronting the international protest to the political program which it announced upon its formation. In a message to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, Shamir informed him that Israel will not settle the new immigrants in the occupied territories—whether in the West Bank or the Gaza Strip. This message came in the wake of the Soviet Union's demand for guarantees from Israel in this regard.

Moreover, several days ago Minister of Housing Ari'el Sharon, who is tasked with immigrant absorption, said at a meeting of the Jewish Agency board of directors that his government does not pursue a policy of settling the immigrants beyond the Green Line.

The U.S. Administration considered Sharon's remarks to be a development in the right direction and a response to the concerns of the international community and the U.S. Administration!

There is no doubt that the Israeli Government is waging a propaganda campaign in a bid to calm world public opinion, as well as the Arab world's wrath, toward its policies which have left no room whatsoever for negotiations or for reaching compromise solutions acceptable to the parties. We should not forget that in the Camp David accords, the then Israeli prime minister, Menachem Begin, committed himself to freezing settlement, but he backed down following the signing of the accords!

Sweet talk by Shamir and Sharon will not deceive us. We will believe Israeli intentions only when an official statement, approved by the Knesset, is issued halting settlement in the occupied territories, ceasing the encouragement of Israelis—by means of funds and facilities—to live in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and ultimately acknowledging that the West Bank and Gaza Strip are occupied territories whose status quo will be maintained by Israel until a settlement and a peace agreement is reached.

Israeli officials have admitted that Shamir's and Sharon's statements do not represent any change in Israeli policy, and the fact is that such remarks are made by many Israeli officials as a cover for settling Israelis in the occupied territories.

The Israeli Government remains committed to its announced and clear strategy, the top priority of which is maintaining the status quo, applying pressure on the residents in the occupied territories in order to end the intifadah, and not making any concessions for the sake of peace, because this government has no intention of giving up one inch of land. It is aware that not relinquishing land means killing any chance for a settlement. As far as this government is concerned, land is more important than peace. Hence, it will try, within the context of its plans and schemes, to empty the Palestinian lands of their legitimate owners, because the prerequisite for its insistence on keeping the lands is to depopulate them of Palestinians.

In order to "appease" world public opinion, Shamir's government will put forward the autonomy plan to the Palestinian people—a plan that does not address the land and the people, because from the viewpoint of Israeli statesmen the land is "Israel's property" but is inhabited by the Palestinian people as "guests." Thus the Palestinians are not a people, and consequently have no rights. Rather, they are "strangers" who have descended to earth from the moon!

What sort of a settlement is this, presented by Shamir and Sharon, that the Palestinians could accept? And how can we accept what they say to Gorbachev or to the Jewish Agency management?

German Parliamentarians Conclude 3-Day Visit

Shamir Says 'Yes' to Unification

TA2806053290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] The speakers of the West and East German parliaments say they have won assurances from Israel that it will not oppose German reunification. Speaking at the end of a three-day visit to Israel, Rita Suessmuth, the speaker of the West German parliament, said Prime Minister Shamir had given her and her East German counterpart, Sabine Bergmann-Pohl, an unconditional yes to reunification.

The prime minister's spokesman, Avi Pazner, confirmed this, saying Shamir told the visitors he expects united Germany to influence other members of the EC to adopt a more understanding attitude towards Israel. The two speakers indicated they were ready to meet the expectations. They said they supported Israel's right to exist in secure borders.

ADN Reports Departure

LD2706180190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1601 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Jerusalem (ADN)—The president of the GDR People's Chamber and the German Bundestag, Dr. Sabine Bergmann-Pohl and Prof. Dr. Rita Suessmuth, have ended their three-day visit to Israel, which received broad international attention. They conducted political talks with President Chaim Herzog, Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, and other leading politicians.

Finland Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio Arrives

To Meet Government Officials

TA2806082990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0800 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Upon arriving in Israel, Finnish Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio said the statements by Ministers Ari'el Sharon and Yuval Ne'eman that newly arrived immigrants will not be directed to settle in the territories sound promising. He intends to discuss the issue in his meetings with government officials. The Finnish foreign minister has conferred with President Hayim Herzog. He was speaking to our correspondent Nava Kohen.

Paper Reports Shamir EC Letter; Frayj Meeting

TA2506105490 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 25 Jun 90 pp 1, 14

[Report by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer, Smadar Peri, and Roni Shaqed]

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has sent a letter to EC leaders who will convene in Dublin, the Irish capital, in two days. In his letter, the prime minister declares that he intends to renew the Israeli peace initiative, with elections in the territories at its center.

The prime minister is expected to send a response to U.S. President George Bush, and it seems that the spirit of the letter to the EC leaders is an indication of the reply expected to be given to Bush.

Meanwhile, it was learned yesterday that a preliminary meeting with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj has been held with an eye toward summoning a number of Palestinian figures to a meeting with Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

In his letter to the European leaders, Shamir writes that he has only recently managed to set up a government, which is required to handle more problems than ever. Referring to the Arab countries, Shamir says that they have not renounced terror as a means in their struggle against Israel, and he expresses the hope that the European countries will make their own contribution to calming the area.

The letter was sent to Foreign Minister David Levi for review before it was sent to the European heads of state.

Our political correspondent reports that, in view of the upcoming European Commission conference, Jerusalem policymakers have decided to take a number of steps in a bid to influence the commission's resolutions.

The Foreign Ministry expects that the European Commission will not adopt a resolution calling on the United States to renew its dialogue with the PLO and that a certain degree of improvement in EC-Israeli relations will be made.

At the same time, Brigadier General Shay Erez, head of the West Bank Civil Administration; Shmu'el Goren, coordinator of government activities in the territories; and Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj held a preliminary meeting yesterday aimed at convincing Frayj to agree, together with other Palestinian leaders in the territories, to meet with Defense Minister Moshe Arens.

The 45-minute meeting was held in the lobby of the Hilton Hotel in Jerusalem. During the talk, Frayj was told that Arens wishes to meet with four or five other Palestinian figures.

Frayj made it clear to Goren and Erez that in his meeting with Arens he will present his demands for the opening of West Bank universities, the release of detainees as a gesture on the part of the Israeli Government, and the improvement of living conditions in the territories through a reduction of the tax burden on the residents of the territories, among other things.

The Bethlehem mayor asked that the meeting between Arens and the Palestinian figures be kept secret to avoid their being pressured and threatened by the leadership of the uprising in the territories, which has stressed that meetings with senior Israeli figures can be held only with the PLO leadership's approval.

No date has so far been set for the meeting between Arens and the Palestinian figures.

Our correspondent Roni Shaqed adds:

Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj last night confirmed that he met yesterday with Shmu'el Goren and Shay Erez.

Frayj said: This was not a secret talk. We sat in the lobby of the Hilton and discussed issues related to daily life in the territories. Former President Yitzhaq Navon and his wife and son saw us and waved hello to us. There was nothing extraordinary about it.

Netanyahu Delivers Protest of EC Resolution

TA2206131690 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Jun 90 p A2

[Report by political correspondent 'Aqiva Eldar]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu summoned the EC ambassadors on Wednesday to protest last week's European Parliament decision. The EC resolution was described in Jerusalem as the sharpest ever taken against Israel. It includes recommendations for measures against Israel, for convening an international conference, and for the dispatch of UN observers to the territories.

Netanyahu told the ambassadors that the resolution reflects an undesirable European policy which only contributes to the instability of the region. He said the tension in the Middle East is expressed in words, such as the Baghdad summit declaration, and in actions, such as the attempted attack at Nizzanim. In such a situation, the stand of the European countries and the EC bears great importance and influence, and it should exploit its

influence to reduce tension and create a basis for stability and moderation in the region.

He claimed that Israel wants fair European involvement based on an exchange of views and cooperation to advance the peace process. Unilateral pressure on Israel will only achieve the opposite results and encourage instability.

Netanyahu expressed the hope that Foreign Minister David Levi will soon be able to meet with his European counterparts.

Aime Meets Territories Official, Army Officer

TA2606181790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe] After his meeting with the defense minister, UN Assistant Secretary General Jean-Claude Aime conferred with Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of government activities in the territories, and with Brigadier General Amnon Strassnoff, the military advocate general.

Aime inquired about Israel's relations with international organizations. Goren said that the defense establishment wants to lay the foundations for cooperation with WHO and noted that its policy has not changed since the establishment of the new government. Goren pointed out that one of the problems is that the defense establishment has failed to extend massive aid to the refugees due to budgetary constraints. The international organizations, Goren stressed, are not prepared to help or even to provide a partial solution.

Later, the military advocate general reviewed before the guest the legal aspects of the Israeli Army's activities in the territories. Strassnoff pointed out that 110 soldiers, ranging in rank from private to colonel, have been brought to trial before military courts. The UN assistant secretary general mentioned a few extraordinary cases, such as soldiers marching into hospitals and clinics, and he was promised that these cases would be checked. Goren also told him that larger signs would be placed outside clinics, and that soldiers have been given instructions so that the recurrence of such cases may be avoided.

[Announcer Tzvi Lidar] Legal aspects were also discussed earlier this morning in a meeting with Justice Minister Dan Meridor in the latter's office in East Jerusalem. At the end of the meeting with Jean-Claude Aime, Minister Meridor said that Israel should not allow the United Nations to constantly follow up compliance with human rights and law and order in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. He explained to the visitor that the violence waged by the Arabs of the territories was the reason for the friction with the authorities in charge of law and order.

[Begin Meridor recording] It does not start with the measures we adopt, but with the violence initiated by them. As long as there is violence, we will have to take measures, and friction will persist. Aime will be meeting these people, and I suggested to him that he convey to them that they would do better to talk than throw stones, that they had better give up violence because it will lead nowhere. I hope this message will be relayed. [end recording]

UN Envoy Aime Meets With Gaza Delegation

TA2806053490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] UN envoy Jean-Claude Aime yesterday toured the Gaza Strip and met with Palestinian figures there. Attending the meeting were Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, Attorney Muhammad Abu-Sha'ban, and Engineer Union Chairman Akram Matar. They voiced complaints about the difficult economic situation and the treatment by Israel of Palestinians in the territories. They also requested UN protection, including the stationing of an international emergency force in the territories. Under Secretary Aime promised to pass their statements on to UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar.

Rabin on Seriousness of Iraqi Threats, Intifadah

TA2706180990 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1605 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Report by military affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe]

[Text] Iraq is trying to reestablish its position in the Arab world. It is no longer preoccupied by the war with Iran and, therefore, it is now turning west towards the Middle East. Iraq today is the strongest Arab country, Knesset Member [MK] Yitzhaq Rabin asserted, and therefore Saddam Husayn's statements should be taken seriously. We must bear in mind that the Iraqi president has threatened to retaliate against an Israeli attack.

[Begin Rabin recording] I have no doubt that if the peace process, according to the government's peace initiative, is terminated, or frozen—as is the case today—Iraq will try to build a hostile political front in the first stage, and at a later date—I cannot say whether this will be six months or four years—to perhaps transform this political front and include military cooperation within its framework. This depends, above all, on the capability of Iraq and Syria to rise above the intense hostility they feel for one another. [end recording]

Later MK Rabin addressed the U.S. break with the PLO, and said that he was not at all certain that the split would lead to a rise in the number of terror operations.

[Begin Rabin recording] I am of the opinion that the modus operandi of the PLO terrorist organizations that are connected with 'Arafat, as well as the uprising in the territories or the intifadah, are decided in any case according to their capabilities and direction. For

example, I do not believe that the near future will witness a move toward the use of firearms in the intifadah. This is due to a very simple reason: I think that the Palestinians in the territories know that it would be much easier for us to fight terror than the characteristics of the intifadah. [end recording]

Later the former defense minister commented on the decisions made by his successor, Moshe Arens. Rabin said that no one is talking about quelling the intifadah; there is only an attempt to lower the level of violence.

[Begin Rabin recording] I have not heard of any change in the general policy. As for these suggestions; what if one adds three or four companies at certain traffic axes? There have already been times when almost double the current number of troops were stationed in the territories. Changes in the emphasis of troop deployment, and continuously more sophisticated measures, must constantly be adopted. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 1700 GMT on 27 June adds that "MK Rabin also expressed opposition to the establishment of a civil guard in the territories, because this body would be no different than the area defense units.]

Postponement of Arab Ministerial Meeting Assailed

TA2706163390 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 27 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "An Unjustified Postponement!!"]

[Text] The decision to postpone the Arab League Council ministerial meeting, which was to be held at the Tunisian capital this evening, is an inauspicious omen with regard to the possibility of an effective Arab retort in response to Washington's decision to suspend its dialogue with the PLO. Such a postponement, irrespective of its reasons, serves the policy of maneuvering and foot-dragging being pursued by the United States and its minor ally, Israel. It also reflects Arab languidness in responding to the insults heaped on the Arab nation, given that the Palestinian peace strategy became an Arab strategy after it was embraced and adopted by the Casablanca summit in 1989. This makes a response to the U.S. measure, which impedes peace, tantamount to protecting Arab resolve from being exposed to any scorn or disdain.

The postponement decision is unjustified, especially because perils are encircling the Arab nation from all sides. This calls for a quick Arab response proportionate to the speed of the dangers and challenges blowing at the Arab nation. We cannot understand this postponement except as being in response to the dictates of Washington, which upon hearing of the PLO's move hastened to coopt Arab anger by summoning Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, and fostering illusions that Washington might retake the path of peace, which would mend the rift between it and the PLO.

Any Arab languidness in defense of the nation's destinies and pan-Arab security will breed further dangers to this nation, and will whet the appetite of its enemies to destroy what is left of Arab capabilities, potentials, and resources.

Hence, the Arab ministerial council is called upon to convene as soon as possible because its decisions will constitute a test of the feasibility of the resolutions of the Baghdad summit, which was regarded as the pan-Arab security summit. These decisions must be compatible with the hopes of the Arab masses in repelling aggression and protecting the Arab nation's present and future.

We believe that the Arabs possess sufficient potential and capabilities enabling them to pressure the United States where it hurts, in order to force it to change its biased policy and play a role befitting a superpower claiming to preserve international security and peace.

First No-Confidence Motion Submitted 27 Jun

TA2706164990 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1600 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The first no-confidence motion against the new government was submitted in the Knesset today. HADASH [Democratic List for Peace and Equality] expressed no confidence in the government for what it called neglect of the homeless. The CRM [Citizens Rights Movement] has also decided to submit a no-confidence motion against the government's misdeeds in the sphere of housing. CRM Knesset Member Ran Kohen said that, despite the housing problem, the Israeli companies for mass-produced construction did not get any new government orders.

Bethlehem Mayor Frayj Views Meeting With Arens

JN2706070590 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Interview with Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj by 'Isam Abu-Dawlah on 26 June from the "With the Events" program—recorded]

[Text] [Abu-Dawlah] Mr. Ilyas Frayj, Bethlehem mayor, what did the meeting between you and Defense Minister Moshe Arens this morning deal with?

[Frayj] Discussions with Defense Minister Moshe Arens dealt with the daily affairs and hardships faced by citizens. We asked him to release most of the detainees and to lift the restrictions imposed on the bringing in of funds by citizens [to the occupied territories]. We asked him to stop the demolishing of so-called unlicensed houses and affirmed that the regional committee headed by Mr. Moscovich [name as heard] does not give building licenses to Arab citizens. We also requested that a Cairo-Amman Bank branch be opened in Bethlehem. He consented to this. We then discussed political affairs. We affirmed to his excellency the minister our desire as Palestinians to reach a comprehensive, durable solution with the the Israelis—people and government—so that

the Palestinian people and the Israeli people can live securely and freely in good neighborliness, without hatred or fear. We explained to the minister that there are no Palestinian representatives in the occupied territories and that the sole, legitimate representative is the PLO. I believe the minister emerged with a positive impression about the meeting. I also believe the meeting will produce positive results. However, our explanation of the political situation was clear, frank, and very strong.

[Abu-Dawlah] Mr. Ilyas Frayj, the Government of Israel does not recognize the PLO nor the idea of negotiations with the PLO. In its peace initiative last May, the Government of Israel proposed elections for the territories to elect residents from the territories to represent the Palestinians. You said you explained to the defense minister that the sole representative is the PLO. How do you view progress in the political process so long as positions are unchanged?

[Frayj] All political negotiations must have two sides. Here there are the Israeli and Palestinian sides. The Israeli side is represented by the Israeli Government. The Palestinian side is represented by the PLO, or the persons publicly deputized and authorized by the PLO. As for the Israeli peace initiative, it includes an article on elections. We the Palestinians support and accept the holding of free, honest, and democratic elections. They must be free, honest, democratic elections, otherwise, elections are meaningless. We clearly explained that to the minister.

[Abu-Dawlah] Regarding the requests you submitted, about the Cairo-Amman Bank as well as other issues, what was the defense minister's response to them?

[Frayj] Regarding the opening of a Cairo-Amman Bank branch in Bethlehem, the minister gave his full consent. He promised to give us a letter to that effect. There were other numerous and varied requests. The mayors of Bayt Jalah, Bayt Sahur, and some members of Bethlehem municipal council also spoke. A wide-ranging discussion lasting more than an hour was held. I believe within the next few days we will hear positive answers from M. Arens to these requests.

[Abu-Dawlah] As representative of a West Bank city in the territories, does Mr. Ilyas Frayj see a difference between the current government and the defense minister in it, Mr. Moshe Arens, and other former defense ministers, such as Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin?

[Frayj] Mr. Rabin, definitely, has his own personality, and Mr. Arens has his own personality. I believe today's meeting was useful and necessary. We are now awaiting Arens' answers.

[Abu-Dawlah] Do you expect changes?

[Frayj] I expect a change of style and in dealing with citizens in general.

[Abu-Dawlah] Mr. Ilyas Frayj, many thanks.

[Frayj] You are welcome.

Bibi Linked To Increase in Jerusalem Fatalities

TA2406112390 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 24 Jun 90 p 7

[Report by Oren Kohen]

[Text] Since Deputy Commander Arye Bibi assumed his position as commander of the Jerusalem District Police, five men have been killed in this district: A youth from Bayt Safafa was killed by police patrol fire, and Border Police live ammunition killed two in the Shu'fat refugee camp and another two in Silwan.

During the term of Bibi's predecessor, the late Deputy Commander Yosef Yehuday, no one was killed by live police fire, despite the numerous violent incidents that took place in the capital during the first months of the intifadah—Yehuday had issued an unequivocal order banning policemen from using their weapons. A very violent incident in the same village of Silwan can be recalled, when policemen in civilian clothes tried to enter the village and were ambushed by masked men. The policemen fled without firing. After this incident, violent events in Jerusalem have been kept at a low ebb.

The only person to have been killed during Yehuday's term was hurt by a tear gas grenade and died of suffocation due to negligence while he was being taken to the hospital.

In view of the relative quiet in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, the four men killed in Jerusalem in the past three months have turned the capital into the intifadah's major front line.

Police Chief Warns of Fatalities in Jerusalem

TA2406114290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 24 Jun 90

[Text] Police Commissioner Ya'aqov Terner said that, if the violence in East Jerusalem in recent days continues, there will be additional fatalities. He said there is a limit to police self-restraint. Commissioner Terner stressed that the curfews imposed on Silwan, Ra's al-'Amud, and Abu-Tor were aimed at calming the inhabitants. He also said the latest incidents in Jerusalem were influenced by what was happening in other places around the world. He said the police are using dogs, among other measures, in East Jerusalem.

On the proposal to set up a civil defense in Israeli settlements in the territories, Terner said that he does not oppose such a move on the condition that the civil defense forces operate in coordination with the security forces.

Police Arrest Suspected Leader of Sicarii Group

TA2606101690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] The police suspect Yo'el Adler, a resident of Jerusalem, of being behind the organization which calls itself the Sicarii. Today it was released for publication that the 46-year-old Adler was arrested 23 days ago and since then has been under interrogation at the Petah Tiqva and Jerusalem jails. For his part, Adler denies all charges.

Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that the police believe that Adler planned the torching of doors in private homes and institutions and also participated in the planting of dud explosive charges. The above acts were directed against the homes of Mina Tzemah [statistician], Dan Almagor [writer and poet], 'Amos Schoken [HA'ARETZ publisher], Hayim Be'er, Gershon Shaqed, Dan Margalit [columnists], and others over the past two years. The investigators believe that the Sicarii organization numbers only one or two additional members, at the most. So far, however, no additional arrests have been made.

The police only have circumstantial evidence tying Adler to the organization, and this is apparently insufficient for the submission of a charge sheet. The Sicarii investigation has been in the hands of the Tel Aviv Police's central unit since the very beginning of the affair.

Yo'el Adler is a resident of Jerusalem and a building contractor by profession. In the past, he was a founding member of the Tehiya Party and a member of the Temple Mount Faithful. He is known for his extreme political views and is a regular participant in demonstrations. Since the beginning of the intifadah, he has submitted many complaints to the police against Palestinian activists and left-wingers who expressed support for direct talks with the PLO.

Two West Bank Colleges Permitted To Reopen

TA2706153490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Civil Administration in Judaea and Samaria today permitted two colleges to reopen forthwith. They are al-Najah University in Nabulus and the Science University in Abu-Dis near Jerusalem. The presidents of the colleges announced that studies will resume only after 'Id al-Adha [13 July], next week.

Arens Seeks Legal Changes To Create Civil Guard

TA2406094290 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Jun 90 p A2

[Report by military correspondent Eytan Rabin]

[Excerpts] Defense Minister Moshe Arens has instructed the defense establishment and the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] to implement a series of recommendations for the security of the Jewish settlements in Judaea and Samaria. The decision to order the IDF to implement the recommendations was made Friday [22 June] in a discussion of the territories forum held in the defense minister's office. Among the recommendations is the establishment of a civil guard in the territories of Judaea and Samaria.

Because the law currently does not allow the establishment of a civil guard in the areas beyond the Green Line, Minister Arens intends to appeal to the justice minister to ask that legislative changes be made. Sources in the defense establishment reported that the settlements being considered are only those in which there are operating police stations, such as Ari'el, Ma'ale Adumim, and others. [passage omitted]

Military sources yesterday told HA'ARETZ that these recommendations were formulated by the military and presented to the defense minister for approval. The sources further noted that the problem with setting up a civil guard is the fear that giving weapons to each resident might cause unnecessary clashes between Jews and Arab residents.

They say that, although today settlers have many weapons, legitimization in the shape of a civil guard coupled with more weapons in the possession of the settlers could cause unnecessary clashes and incidents. [passage omitted]

Arens Seeking Measures Against Stone Throwers

TA2706045190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Force] has begun increasing its forces along major routes in Judaea and Samaria. This, in accordance with a decision taken by Defense Minister Arens.

Our military correspondent says that Arens has also asked the military advocate general to look into a number of other measures aimed at containing stone throwers. He will also start preparing legislation aimed at the establishment of a civil guard in the territories.

Military Says General Staff Opposes Civil Guard

TA2506121190 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 25 Jun 90 p 3

[Report by Avi Bnayahu]

[Excerpts] "The establishment of civil guard units in the settlements will allow the settlers an almost official involvement in security activity, and they might turn into an armed Jewish militia which might cause an escalation." This was the reaction of senior military elements to the defense minister's decision to work toward setting up a civil guard in the major Jewish settlements in the West Bank.

According to them, the internal security needs of the settlements do not require a civil guard, which is why it

should be expected that the volunteers would move beyond the settlement fences and that the limitations the IDF [Israel Defense Force] set concerning this decision will be eroded.

"The General Staff was and is against establishing a civil guard with constraints and limitations," a senior military source has said.

According to him, this is an irreversible step that will cause the IDF a "headache." "The defense minister has made a new opening which will be impossible to close and which will expand," he said.

Military sources reported yesterday that the IDF will begin beefing up its forces next week to implement the defense minister's decision to reinforce the defense of the major West Bank arteries.

According to the sources, this is a small reinforcement move which will have no effect on IDF training frameworks. The majority of the soldiers that will comprise the reinforcement will be incorporated in patrol activities and will man new lookout posts along problematic routes. [passage omitted]

CRM [Citizens Rights Movement] Knesset Members [MK's] Yosi Sarid and 'Oded Zucker have demanded that the defense minister revoke his decision to set up a civil guard for Ari'el and Qiryat Arba'. The two have said that this is an unfortunate decision which will bring about an escalation in the West Bank.

Sarid and Zucker have said that the IDF should remain the sole body responsible for the defense of the area and that past experience shows that a settlers' civil guard will soon turn into a gang of lawbreaking hoodlums.

They note that, so far, the Army has objected to setting up a civil guard in the West Bank, and for good reason.

Commentary Analyzes Need for Military Satellite

TA2706131090 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 27 Jun 90 p B1

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "A Military Satellite for Israel"]

[Text] Iraq's growing military strength, and Saddam Husayn's threats to use chemical weapons and troops against Israel, as well as the stationing of surface-to-surface missiles along his border with Jordan, call for serious reflection on whether Israel needs a military satellite. The need to know more about what is happening beyond the neighboring Arab confrontation states has been proven in the last few years. This time, however, it is not a question of attaining general knowledge about the military buildup of an Arab country 800 km. away from Israel but, first and foremost, the need for real-time knowledge of details such as the movement of Iraqi troops toward Israel, or the firing of surface-to-surface missiles. Everybody recognizes the fact that in the present circumstances Israel needs a far earlier warning.

Those who in the past objected to the manufacture of a military satellite will in the future probably fight to be put in charge of it, if and when Israel manufactures one. It remains to be seen whether they will be ready to slash their budgets in order to build a system of military satellites.

This argument can easily end in a positive decision, as the matter in question is an essentially defensive warning system, a system which mainly strengthens the defender and compensates it for its inferiority in terms of territory and troops. Furthermore, and no less important, a system of military satellites can give self-confidence to a side that is forced to give up territory in the framework of a peace treaty. In times of war, satellites of course provide important information. Still, all this should not lead to the conclusion that a military satellite, if and when it is manufactured, is the panacea that will solve all intelligence problems.

Similar to photographs taken from aircraft, satellite photographs do not provide definitive answers about the enemy's intentions. They must be correctly interpreted. Despite these limitations, there is no doubt that a military satellite will add a great deal to Israel's early warning systems which should be as independent as possible, and not rely on fragmentary data collected by others. The question is not one of principle, whether a military satellite is necessary, but whether Israel can afford to maintain such a system.

Does Israel have the ability to build a military satellite? In my opinion the answer is yes. All the experts I spoke to said it was only a matter of time. If Israel makes up its mind and decides in favor of such a move, it would not take long before it acquired a military satellite. Obviously, if Washington helped Israel in this positive sphere a great deal of time would be saved. Ofeq 2 was launched about two months ago, and is shortly due to reenter the atmosphere and perish. Its launch was very successful, and its positioning in a specific location in space was well planned and showed good synchronization of all systems. It suffered a few malfunctions in its communications and batteries while in orbit but, all in all, important lessons were learned. The control center at Israel Aircraft Industries does not even begin to resemble NASA, but Israel has good reason to be proud of its first achievements.

Arye Herzog, the director of the Mabat plant employing 1,700 workers, says that about 20 percent of his personnel work on space technology. Many workers in other plants, universities, and the Technion in Haifa should be added to that number. This industry is developing nicely, and immigrants from the United States and the Soviet Union are eager to participate.

Ofeq's planners are proud of the computer they built, which attracted attention in Germany and the United States due to

its light weight and its vast calculating power. Another computer planned in Israel and unrelated to Ofeq scored an important achievement when it was introduced into the U.S. missile Pegasus which, among other things, is designed to launch satellites from aircraft.

According to experts, Israel does not have a technological problem in building a military satellite, although the launch of a small satellite relaying signals from space does not yet attest to the ability to place a military satellite into orbit. The first question is: how much weight would the launch vehicle be able to carry? The large military satellites of the superpowers weigh some 10 metric tons, and carry about 9 metric tons of fuel. They ascend and descend to different altitudes and have a long life span. There are light satellites with a short life span that weigh from 250 kg. to 1 metric ton. As may be recalled, Israel said that Ofeq 2 weighed about 160 kg.

There is also the question of the satellite's stability. If one wants to obtain good photographs, it is necessary to have a stationary satellite set in one direction, rather than one that is constantly turning on its axis. A serious early warning system cannot make do with just one satellite in space. Even a small country would need two satellites in space, and a third ready for launch.

This is an expensive system that calls for means to enable launching, a control and maintenance center and, of course, intelligence experts to determine the satellite's route under different weather conditions, and to be responsible for the interpretation of the photographs. This brings us to the conclusion that if a decision is made in the 1990's to manufacture a military satellite, it will also be necessary to plan the establishment of a unit to deal with the matter.

Cooperation Accord Signed With USSR

JN2806055290 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The executive program for cultural and scientific cooperation between the Jordanian and Soviet Governments was signed today at the Ministry of Planning. The program was signed for the Jordanian Government by the secretary general of the Ministry of Planning, while the Soviet ambassador in Amman signed for the Soviet Government. Mr. Mahmud Jaradat, director of the public relations department at the Ministry of Planning spoke about the details of the agreement.

[Begin recording] As a translation of the cultural and scientific relations between the Government of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and the USSR Government, the executive program for cultural and scientific cooperation for the years 1990-91 was signed today at the Ministry of Planning. The program provides for cooperation in the following fields:

1. Sciences, higher education, and education: According to the program, the Soviet Government will provide for the Jordanian Government full scholarships at Soviet universities and colleges. It will also receive a number of the Jordanian graduates of Soviet universities and colleges in order to enhance their scientific qualifications at specialized colleges and courses for this purpose. The Soviet Government will continue to send Soviet teachers to teach the Russian language at the al-Yarmuk University. It will also provide books and the technical means needed to teach the Russian language. In return, the Jordanian Government will receive a number of Soviet trainee students to enhance their knowledge of the Arabic language and literature and the history and culture of Jordan. The two sides will work to implement the cooperation agreement signed between the Jordanian and Soviet universities and scientific institutions.

2. Media, culture, tourism, antiquities, and youth: In these fields, the two sides will exchange visits by folkloric groups and musical bands and cinema delegations to participate in the various artistic activities. The two sides will encourage cooperation between the departments of antiquities and the radio and television in both countries. They will also work to develop sports relations between them.

3. Health: The two sides will continue to bolster health relations between them through developing cooperation between the Jordanian Red Crescent Society and the Soviet Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The two sides will also exchange information and expertise in this field.

This program does not exclude the possibility of carrying out other activities in the field of cultural and scientific exchange between the two countries. [end recording]

Al-Qasim Discusses EC Decision, U.S. Position

JN2706195090 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has asserted that Jordan welcomes the political statement issued by EEC leaders in Dublin yesterday.

Al-Qasim said the statement is a continuation of the positive European position on the Middle East issue. In a statement to our political affairs reporter, Salim 'Ali Dhiyab, al-Qasim added:

[Begin recording] [Dhiyab] Mr. Minister: What does the EEC's political statement mean in light of the U.S. suspension of the dialogue with the PLO?

[Al-Qasim] First of all, the European position has differed from that of the United States since the Venice summit. I believe what became clear through the European summit statement is the need to protect the rights of the Palestinian people. I believe the word of caution; the statement issued in Dublin clearly cautions Israel and the new Israeli government that Europe cannot deal with or accept such a policy, which will eventually lead to more instability and bring danger to the region; the repercussions will transcend the region. I believe the European conception and assessment of this new expansionist Israeli government are words of caution to Israel and other countries involved in and influencing the peace process. We hope that there will be a reassessment and reconsideration of the decision the United States made recently to suspend the dialogue with the PLO. We also would like to see a true peace process begin; we wish dialogue or arriving at a dialogue were not viewed as ends in themselves, but as means by which we could move toward the international conference which will be the final venue for establishing just and comprehensive peace.

Of course, we had hoped that the Israeli side would make peace overtures, and that the dialogue with the side which has demonstrated its willingness and moved toward peace since 1988 had not stopped. Thank you. [end recording]

Finnish Foreign Minister Pertti Arrives in Amman

Comments on Regional Tour

JN2606193690 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 26 jun 90

[Text] Finnish Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio arrived in Amman this afternoon via the al-Ramtha border station on a two-day official visit to Jordan. Upon arrival at the border station, Paasio stated that his visit to Jordan is part of a regional tour comprising Syria, Jordan, the occupied territories, and Israel to explore the situation in the region, to discuss Jewish emigration, and to find out how to contribute toward pushing the peace process in the region forward, especially as Finland is a UN Security Council member. He said that during his visit he will

meet with Jordanian officials to discuss means to bolster bilateral relations in various fields, with special emphasis on tourism.

Comments on West Bank Settlement

JN2706090990 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 27 Jun 90 p 1

[By Maryam M. Shahin, JORDAN TIMES Staff Reporter]

[Text] Amman—Finland's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Perti Passio arrived here Tuesday for talks with senior Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and the Middle East situation, including Soviet Jewish immigration and efforts to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In an apparent bid to allay Jordanian and Arab concern that Finland could serve as a transit point en route to Israel for hundreds of thousands of Soviet Jews, Passio said in a statement he gave to Jordan Television that his country opposed the settlement of Soviet Jewish emigres in the occupied territories. Such settlement, he said, violates United Nations resolutions.

He said his swing through the Middle East which has already taken him to Syria was warranted after his country joined the United Nations Security Council and in light of the fact that Finnish troops are serving with United Nations peacekeeping forces in the region.

Finland supports a just and comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East, the minister said but did not specify which method his country sees as the most viable towards achieving peace in the region.

In a separate statement given to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, at the border post at al-Ramtha, the minister said [he] was seeking first-hand information on the situation in the region and discuss what role Helsinki could play in advancing the peace process.

Finland was one of the six or seven countries singled out during at last month's emergency Arab summit in Baghdad as possible transit points for Soviet Jews headed for Israel. Without naming the countries, the final communique of the summit warned that the Arab countries would consider their relations with these states on the basis of the latter's position on Soviet Jewish immigration to Israel.

Passio, who is also deputy prime minister, is accompanied on his visit to Jordan by the non-resident Finnish ambassador to the Kingdom, Juhani Muhonen, who is based in Damascus.

Before his arrival here, Passio held talks with Syrian leaders and visited a 400-strong Finnish contingent serving with the U.N. Disengagement Observation Force (UNDOF) in the Golan Heights.

Formal talks between the Finnish minister and Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim and other officials begin Wednesday. Passio is scheduled to leave for the occupied territories Thursday after holding a press conference Wednesday afternoon.

En route to Amman by road from al-Ramtha, Passio participated in a tree-planting ceremony at the Scandinavian Forest near al-Baq'ah. The ceremony was attended by Agriculture Minister Sulayman 'Arabiyat and other senior Jordanian and Scandinavian officials.

Tuesday evening Passio attended a dinner held in his honour by the Jordanian-Scandinavian Friendship Association, which is chaired by Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Bin-Zayd.

In addition to talks with al-Qasim, Passio will also meet with members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Lower House of Parliament. The possibility of a meeting with His Majesty King Husayn was not excluded by Finnish consulate officials.

King Expresses Concern Over Israel

LD2706165290 Helsinki Domestic Service in Finnish 1500 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] We have received a report from Jordan, where Foreign Minister Pertti Paasio held talks with King Husayn. Husayn expressed to Paasio his worries about the situation in the Middle East and the immigration of Jews to Israel. From Amman, Sinikka Arteva reports:

[Arteva] King Husayn of Jordan says that he is happy with Finland's assurances that Finland will not be a tunnel for Soviet Jews to Israel. The king met Paasio an hour ago, and he left a message from President Koivisto to the king. In an interview with the Finnish Broadcasting Company, the king said that Paasio had told him about Finland's plans to give the Soviet Jews a real chance to choose the country they want to live in. The king is of the opinion that the situation in the Middle East is very serious and compares it with the days of the summer war of 1967. The king also let it be understood that he himself is about to become more radical, because no solution to the situation is to be seen. He said: I am less moderate than before, and one can only ask why. The king did not put any importance on the recent statements of the Israeli leaders, which have given the indirect impression that it is not Israel's policy to place the Soviet Jews in the occupied areas. The king viewed positively the fact that discussion in the Middle East is again moving toward an international Middle East peace conference. According to him the discussion has in recent years and months been on the side track.

Go to the occupied areas and see what is happening in there! This was said by Tahir al-Masri chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Jordanian House of Representatives to Foreign Minster Paasio this morning. And the message of Jordan has been clear during this visit: The outside world does not put enough pressure on Israel, but allows it to create new facts in the occupied areas. Jordanian minister of foreign affairs Marwan al-Qasim had talks lasting just over two hours with

Paasio this morning. After the talks, Al-Qasim, who looked serious, said the same thing as the king, that Jordan does not believe in the recent assurances of the leaders of Israel, who have said that it is not Israel's policy to place Soviet Jews in the occupied areas. Al-Qasim does not see any change in Israel's statements, and said that the same leaders have set great Israel as their aim.

Paasio maybe had his hardest time at a meeting with the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Jordanian House of Representatives. An Islamic parliament deputy stated that he hoped that the big powers—the United States and the Soviet Union—do not blackmail Finland into supporting the movement of Soviet Jews. Paasio stated that the transfers have not yet started and that Finland has not and could not be blackmailed.

Concurs With King on Mideast Issues

JN2706185590 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] At the Royal Court this afternoon, His Majesty King Husayn received Mr. Pertti Paasio, Finnish foreign minister, who handed his majesty a message from the Finnish president.

During the meeting, his majesty reviewed international changes, and asserted that Jordan welcomes these changes which have transferred international relations from the stage of confrontation, the arms race, and the cold war to a new stage of cooperation, a halt to the arms race, and endeavors to end disputes and conflicts.

His Majesty King Husayn warned against the consequences of neglecting the Middle East and not paying it the serious attention it deserves. This, his majesty added, aggravated problems and disputes in the region and created a situation presaging disasters.

His majesty said: We reassert our constant, principled stance on human rights and on the need to respect these, especially the right to travel and reside wherever an individual wants. He noted that the Jewish emigration now taking place under the banner of human rights constitutes an aggression on the rights of the Palestinian Arab people.

His majesty added: If the Jewish emigration now taking place is part of human rights, then these rights demand that the Jewish emigrant be given the freedom to choose the place to which he wishes to travel, and not be deprived of this choice and forced to leave for Israel and occupied Palestine.

His majesty went on to say: These emigrants are now settling in the homeland of others and at the expense of Palestinian citizens. Therefore, the emigration, in its present form, poses a great obstacle which prevents the Palestinians from attaining their right to determine their fate on their national soil.

For more than 23 years, His Majesty King Husayn asserted, Jordan has been seeking to restore the occupied land and establish a just peace, which can only be established by Israel withdrawing from the occupied territories and enabling the Palestinian people to decide their destiny on these territories. When we severed legal and administrative ties with the West Bank in response to a Palestinian and Arab request, the king added, this was to make the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, assume full responsibility toward the peace process. Although the PLO has responded to all that was asked by the international community, the king added, this has not resulted in anything. The United States's suspending the dialogue with the PLO came to serve the extremists who do not want to establish a just peace or to see the Middle East enjoy the sought after peace and stability, especially since this region has a great and grave importance.

Concluding, his majesty praised the bilateral relations binding Jordan and Finland. He asserted that he, and the people and Government of Jordan, were eager to further deepen and promote these relations in all areas.

The Finnish minister concurred with His Majesty King Husayn's assessment of international changes, and said that this region has not been accorded the attention it should in light of international changes and the world's quest to resolve deep-rooted disputes and conflicts by peaceful means.

Mr. Paasio said the Finnish position on Jewish immigration to Palestine is completely identical with Jordan's. He stressed the importance of viewing the second aspect of this emigration which relates to the rights of the Palestinian individual.

The Finnish minister stressed that Jewish emigrants must be afforded the right to choose the places to which they wanted to go so that emigration would not be at odds with human rights. He asserted that Finland opposes settlement on Palestinian land, and that Finland's position on this issue is a constant one based on principles.

The meeting was attended by the chief of the Royal Court, his majesty's political adviser, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and the nonresident Finnish ambassador to Jordan.

After meeting with His Majesty King Husayn, the visitor talked to our reporter, Maha al-Sha'ir. [Begin recording in English] [Paasio] I surely appreciate the very warm reception to Jordan and the straightforward deliberations with your representatives in all levels and parliament and government, and especially with his majesty just recently, and we have been discussing mainly the Middle East situation and to a very far extent we could share the views and the worries about the developments of the situation. We sincerely hope that the international cooperation would be improved so that the settlement could be found to this burning question.

[Al-Sha'ir] Yesterday you said Finland opposes the settlement of the Soviet Jews. What can Finland do regarding this issue?

[Paasio] We have expressed our views very clearly that we oppose the settlement of the occupied territories in general—all settlements of Israeli citizens in those areas are against international laws and the resolutions of the UN and human rights of the Palestinians. As to the problem of Soviet Jews, we have said very clearly that when the emigration is taking place, we expect that the Israeli Government is doing what it can do to prevent the settlements of those emigrants to the occupied territories because it is worsening in a very severe way—the situation in the Middle East. [end recording]

Discusses Immigration to Finland

JN2706202290 Amman Television Service in English 1900 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Finnish foreign Minister said at a news conference that international relations were the background of all his deliberations with Jordanian officials. He said the situation in the Middle East was the main topic. Asked if Jewish emigrants from the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe could settle in Finland, he said that in principle and practice it is possible if work be arranged for them.

Mr. Paasio reasserted that the aim of his visit is to boost bilateral relations between Jordan and Finland.

Ends Two-Day Visit, Leaves Amman

JN2706204290 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Mr. Pertti Paasio has expressed his country's deep concern over Middle East developments, asserting the need for joining efforts to establish peace in the region.

Speaking at a news conference before leaving Amman after a two-day visit to Jordan, Mr. Paasio added that he met with His Majesty King Husayn and held talks with Jordanian officials on bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest, especially the immigration of Soviet Jews to the occupied Arab territories.

He said his country's concern with the region stems from the fact that Finland is a member of the Security Council and that it contributes to the peacekeeping forces in the Middle East.

Mr. Paasio expressed satisfaction with the development of bilateral relations in all fields, especially tourism, whose high point was His Majesty King Husayn's visit to Finland two years ago.

He asserted that Finland believes and constantly defends human rights, including the right to travel and movement, explaining that his country opposes the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories.

He called on Israel to honor its commitments not to settle the immigrants in the territories. He denied that Soviet Jews emigrated to Israel via Finnish territory, saying Finland is not against hosting Soviet Jews in the future if they so wish, because it believes in the individual's right to movement and residence wherever that invididual wishes.

Efforts To Free Red Cross Officials Continue

NC2706161890 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] AL-ITTIHAD, which is published in Abu Dhabi, has disclosed that joint Palestinian-Libyan efforts are currently being made to bring about the release of the two Swiss officials of the International Committee of the Red Cross [ICRC] who were kidnapped in South Lebanon on 6 October 1989. The paper notes that the ICRC chairman will visit Tripoli soon to meet with Libyan leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

'Awn Comments on al-Ta'if Amendment, Solution

JN2706155490 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 26 Jun 90 p 19

[Interview with Lebanese General Michel 'Awn by an unidentified reporter in Beirut; date not given]

[Excerpts] [AL-ANBA'] Asked about his response to the decision of the Council of Ministers under President al-Hirawi and Prime Minister al-Huss to call all parties to join the legitimate government without preconditions, General Michel 'Awn has replied that asking for no preconditions is itself a condition. He added: If they respect al-Ta'if and the spirit of al-Ta'if, then such an agreement should be implemented by a national union government. So, does the existing government represent a national union government?

If it does not, then why do you not join it to make it such?

['Awn] There are certain issues under discussion with those who proposed the initiatives. We do not want to rush things and say that this view of Gen. 'Awn's is accepted and that other one rejected; this way people will not be committed to certain positions. We do not want people to be forced to reject or accept an issue because of a commitment. We should leave those who propose initiatives to present their ideas. However, there are basic issues in the al-Ta'if agreement that relate to national interest—these absolutely do not relate to sectarianism—that should be reconsidered. Based on the above, no one should be an obstacle to reconsideration of the al-Ta'if agreement.

[AL-ANBA'] Reconsidering the al-Ta'if agreement is something agreed upon. The problem is in the timing: You want this to take place now before any other step. Others are reiterating that all agreements are not heavenly revelations, and that everything is subject to amendment and change when the situation becomes stable.

['Awn] Why should we first transform the agreement from a draft law to a law, then reconsider it? Why can we not amend it now? As long as we are certain there is a defect, then why should we put the agreement in place and bear the consequences of its implementation, although we know beforehand that it has a defect? The al-Ta'if agreement contains an imbalance between the executive and legislative authorities.

[AL-ANBA'] People now have the impression that the distance between you and the government of President al-Hirawi and al-Huss has been much shortened.

['Awn] This is true. The issue now is over technical points. No one wants to say: You are right. However, there is an implied recognition of what is right and correct. The issue lies in giving vent to thoughts.

[AL-ANBA'] The Council of Ministers has issued a decision that calls all forces to unite under the banner of the legitimate government. Obviously, this decision is primarily addressed to Gen. 'Awn, then to Dr. Ja'ja', and even to Hizballah. What do you think?

['Awn] I do not expect the current government to issue a decision different from this, because this government is the outcome of the al-Ta'if agreement. The current government cannot make any decision that infringes on the al-Ta'if agreement, which led to its formation. Certain individual leaders who belong to it, however, can make such decisions, but not the Council of Ministers, which has no right to assess the al-Ta'if agreement. Eighty percent of this government owe their posts to the al-Ta'if agreement. Introducing any amendment to the agreement, therefore, means their own elimination. That is why this government cannot make any decision different from the one issued. They welcome our joining them. They are providing the opportunity for us.

[AL-ANBA'] They are doing this to shorten the distance and facilitate solutions?

['Awn] No, no. This is weakness. This government owes its existence to the existing conflict. It is not interested, therefore, in accepting any accord outside the context of the al-Ta'if agreement, because discussing or reconsidering the agreement means their abolishment. Hence, we cannot ask someone who will be abolished by dialogue to accept dialogue. As I have said, this government includes essential individuals and minor individuals. The latter will always be unyielding to prevent the dialogue that will surely put an end to their existence. [passage omitted]

[AL-ANBA'] If we want to talk about initiatives, can you brief us on how you feel about the Vatican and French initiatives?

['Awn] I support any solution that is based on constant national principles. If we want Lebanon to continue and the participative approach in ruling Lebanon to persist, the al-Ta'if agreement has to be amended. The al-Ta'if agreement has also to be amended if we want to remedy the practices of authorities, because it has a defect. The practical measures it sets forth do not take into consideration the theoretical principles that form the fulcrum of Lebanon. There is a contradiction between the preface of the al-Ta'if agreement and its content which, it seems, was worked out in advance in a hasty manner.

[AL-ANBA'] The French proposals, however, do not insist on amending the al-Ta'if agreement now?

['Awn] No one is insisting on anything: They merely come and present certain ideas and principles. We, too, present certain views. They try to be mediators.

[AL-ANBA'] Does this mean you insist on amending the al-Ta'if agreement now before reaching an "understanding" and not afterward?

['Awn] It is not that I insist; what is important is that no political practice be enforced while the defect exists, because remedying this defect later will cost dearly.

[AL-ANBA'] In the wake of the tripartite committee's resumption of its efforts for Lebanon, have you anything to say to the committee?

['Awn] I invite them to visit us in Lebanon. The current security situation allows them to. If the situation did not allow them to make this visit during the stage of preparing the al-Ta'if agreement, the situation during the stage of implementing the al-Ta'if agreement seems appropriate for them to visit 3'abda.

[AL-ANBA'] Which road do you want them to take?

['Awn] All the roads are open. The Beirut Airport road is open; the land road (across Damascus) is also open. All roads lead to B'abda.

Ja'ja' on International Initiatives, Solution

NC2706160790 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr. Samir Ja'ja' has stated that all the regional and international initiatives on Lebanon stress the need to find a comprehensive solution to the Lebanese crisis. In an interview with AL-DUWALIYAH magazine to be published in Paris and the Arab world tomorrow, Dr. Ja'ja' said Syrian reactions to the initiatives under discussion have not been negative. He explained that the current situation is the worst ever in terms of discord, depletion of resources, and inaction. Therefore, he said, all possible efforts must be made to bring Lebanon out of this impasse, without getting into trivial details. Lebanon itself has been the biggest loser in the ongoing war in East Beirut, he said, adding: As a society, a people, a homeland, and defenders of a cause, we are all losers.

Dr. Ja'ja' added: The al-Ta'if agreemeent is wide enough to embrace federalism and decentralization and it does not conflict with decentralization. The new legitimacy has not been as strong as it should have been, however, he added, given the current political conditions nothing better could have been achieved. From now on, legitimacy can no longer falter in settling the issue of its presence in East Beirut. Legitimacy has to choose between two options: To regain its legal rights and respect from General 'Awn by force, or, to include the general in a solution within the framework of the current international initiatives. Personally, he said, I would not opt for the use of force. However, he added, legitimacy cannot remain with its hands tied.

On the role of the Lebanese Forces, Dr. Ja'ja' said: After the state has been established, the Lebanese Forces will be transformed into a political party. Their social, economic, and media institutions will continue their activities and their military institutions will be dissolved or merged with the state institutions, he explained.

On the Palestinian presence in Lebanon, Dr. Ja'ja' said: This presence should not be armed. Weapons should be held exclusively by the legitimate authorities. There will be no need for a new agreement because nobody will allow the Palestinians to remain armed in a sovereign state and under a firm authority. [passage omitted]

Al-Hirawi Returns to Beirut After Gulf Tour

NC2706190590 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Excerpt] President of the Republic Ilyas al-Hirawi concluded his tour of a number of Gulf countries with a visit to the United Arab Emirates. He returned to Beirut this evening, while Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss arrived in Saudi Arabia to perform a pilgrimage. [passage omitted]

Explosion Reported at 'Awn Artillery Position

NC2806060790 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] It has been learned that a big explosion has taken place at one of the 'Awn gunmen's artillery emplacements in the Kafra area. The emplacement was destroyed and the personnel manning it were injured in the blast. Immediately afterward, 'Awn gunmen conducted a random series of arrests, detaining a number of civilians and military men.

Six Injured in Amal-Hizballah Skirmish

NC2806053890 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] In the South, tension is high in the Iqlim al-Tuffah villages following yesterday's fighting between Amal and Hizballah gunmen, which left six persons injured in the village of Jarju'.

In another development, clashes in which various types of weapons were used took place overnight along the Lib'a-'Ayn al-Mir-Kafr Falus combat lines between Popular Liberation Army—Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd troops and Lahd militiamen.

At 2130 last night, Israeli warplanes flew over Sidon and the Palestinian camps, dropping illumination flares.

Afghanistan

Second PDPA Congress Opens 27 Jun in Kabul

LD2706141590 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1330 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Second Congress of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan [PDPA], an important and great event in the political life of the party and the country, opened today 7 Saratan [27 June] in the city of Kabul. It was presided over by esteemed Najibullah, general secretary of the PDPA and president of Afghanistan. BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY reports: More than 700 elected representatives of the PDPA members and more than 300 representatives of other political organizations, national and social personalities and intellectuals have been invited to the congress. The reportage of the congress proceedings will be transmitted at 1900 [1430 GMT] by Radio Afghanistan.

Najibullah Addresses Opening

LD2706205390 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Speech by Najibullah, general secretary of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, PDPA, Central Committee, opening the second PDPA Congress in Kabul on 27 June—recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Esteemed delegates, participants in the second congress of the PDPA. The second congress of the PDPA, a great historical event, begins today. As commissioned by the more than 173,000 members of our party, the delegates have come together here in this hall in order to take decisions about the future of the party and its aims and destiny by assessing the past in this time of change in the history of our country.

Our party has [word indistinct] for 25 years on the path of progress, democracy, justice, and brotherhood and, through suffering many sacrifices, has struggled on the path of realizing the high aspirations of the people, making the country flourish, and eliminating the backwardness of society. As the true heir of the liberation struggle in Afghanistan and the follower of the path of those indefatigable members who lost their lives for independence, or in the struggle against oppression and for constitutionality, democracy, and progress, or who have remained in jails for long years of their lives—and despite the difficulties, defeats, successes, and mistakes in the course of 25 years—our party has played its active role and consistently tried to be inspired by the thinking of the people and to remain in the front rank of defending high national interests.

The path chosen by our party was not even. On this path, the party resisted the oppressive rule that prevailed for a long time and made great efforts to maintain the prosperity of the people and promote the blossoming of the country [words indistinct]. And in the end, in the course of a long and bloody war, we heroically defended our territorial integrity and (?national) interests.

Along with this, in following this path, the party also made serious mistakes and great blunders. It has, however, tried at every step not to stray away from realities, not to forget self-criticism, and not to (?forget) public opinion. It is due to these realities that the PDPA chose the path of national reconciliation and began the policy of reconstruction in a timely way. In the course of the last three and a half years, our party has openly confessed its mistakes. Things that were at variance with the thinking and beliefs of our people have been abandoned one after another. Our party belongs to the people and is struggling on the path of their prosperity. The new policy of national reconciliation and reconstruction, which emanates from the correct approach to political realism and from our national, Islamic, and patriotic realism and accords with the demands of our millions of compatriots for putting an end to war in our fatherland and maintaining peace, has placed the PDPA at the center of great political changes and at the center of a great jihad for peace. We should, first of all, see the secret of victory of our party in the face of its courageous approach to the realities within itself and within the country. It is therefore true that, despite many accusations and allegations, our party is carrying out its duty, more firmly than ever, in its political and social life and in making efforts to bring peace to the country.

Many opponents thought that under the great pressure created as a result of the war, this party would be broken into pieces. That did not happen. Some thought that the reconstruction of the party would result in the party's elimination. This also did not happen. Some tried to destroy the party from within and renew the old wounds. But these designs did not reach their goal, and the party remains in its trenches, firm and strong. [applause]

The reason for the survival of our party, the protection of its unity, and its confrontation with every hostile attempt in our history, is hidden in its wisdom and the high understanding of its members in realizing their responsibility before the party, the people, and the homeland. The history of our party should be seen in the faces of those heroes who, by sacrificing their lives, have struggled along the way of defending the homeland and peace, and not in the faces of mistakes and of those individuals who cannot represent the history of our party. [applause]

Esteemed participants of the congress, let us stand in respect to almost 40,000 struggling martyrs of our party and all martyrs of the homeland who have lost their beloved lives on the path of the aspirations of the party and the people, and pray for them. [few seconds silence]

Respected delegates and friends, by hoisting the flag of national reconciliation, our party has given new spirit to the soul of millions of our compatriots. The struggle for peace is harder than the struggle in war. The second congress of our party is being held at a time when we are

passing from war to peace and to the reconstruction of a ruined country. Therefore the work of this congress, which says goodbye to all the darkness of the past and brings the message of peace to our people who are thirsty for peace, is of great importance for our party. Our responsible work in this congress will meet this issue. A reconstruction party, peace, and the reconstruction of the country are inseparable. In order to attract the great trust of the people who have lost their livelihood and have faced threats and elimination as a result of the current war, on the way toward the revival of the country, every inch of which has the stamp of destruction because of war, and to finally put an end to bloodshed and fratricide, we are striving ahead. We hope that our congress will succeed in continuing on the path of [words indistinct]. Let the message of the congress to the people of Afghanistan be the message of peace and solidarity. Along with other political forces and people, the party is struggling toward the great aspiration of achieving an end to the war.

Respected delegates of the congress, 868 representatives have been elected from all the party to the second congress of the PDPA. Some 822 representatives are present in this hall and 46 are not present for good reason. I propose that the congress begin work.

'Extremist' Leaders Killed in Clashes

LD2606193190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Khaksar, a leader of a Golbuddin extremist group, was recently killed in Parvan Province. The military section of the BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] reported that he was killed when his group attacked a rival group over the distribution of plundered goods.

Fierce clashes recently flared in the surroundings of Nangarhar Province between the extremist groups of Sayyaf and Mawlawi Yunis. The military section of the BIA reported that as a result of these clashes, Malang, a ringleader of the Yunis group, along with a number of his men, were killed and a number injured. The Sayyaf group lost seven men. [passage omitted]

Resistance Forces Report Advances Against Regime

BK2706161690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have made some advances and inflicted heavy loss of life and property on the Kabul regime. A MIDIA [MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC AFGHANISTAN] report says that during their offensive along Mazar-e Sharif Highway in Baghlan Province, the mujahidin captured three posts, damaged two tanks and four military vehicles of the regime. They have also attacked the Abbasabad locality in Qandahar Province, capturing one more post and killing 15 Kabul regime soldiers. During their attack on the airport of the besieged city Khowst, the mujahidin also damaged a Kabul regime transport plane.

Bangladesh

Ershad's Talks With Chinese President Cancelled

BK2706151590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1449 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Dhaka, June 27 (AFP)—Scheduled talks between Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad and his Chinese counterpart, Yang Shangkun, were cancelled due to Mr. Yang's reported illness, the official BSS [BANGLADESH NEWS AGENCY] news agency said Wednesday [27 June].

Mr. Ershad would meet with acting President Wang Zhen instead during his five-day official visit to China, BSS said, citing foreign office sources here.

The Bangladesh president sent a message to Mr. Yang on Wednesday wishing him a "speedy and complete recovery" and saying he was "deeply disturbed" to learn of the elderly leader's sudden illness.

Mr. Ershad begins his visit to China on Thursday, accompanied by his wife Begum Raushan Ershad and a 40-member senior delegation, officials said earlier.

It is Mr. Ershad's seventh trip to China since he seized power in a bloodless coup eight years ago.

Mr. Ershad is to meet with senior Chinese leaders including Prime Minister Li Peng and Communist Party General Secretary Jiang Zemin, BSS said, adding that bilateral science and technology accords would be renewed during the visit.

Bangladesh, which receives a large share of its economic and military aid from China, refrained from comment on Beijing's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protestors a year ago.

Ershad Departs for PRC

BK2806062690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0616 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Dhaka, June 28 (AFP)—Bangladesh President Hussain Mohammad Ershad left here for China Thursday [28 June] on a five-day state visit, as a day-long strike called by major opposition political groups gripped this South Asian country, officials said.

Witnesses said the president was driven to Zia International Airport in the outskirts of the capital under heavy guard because of the strike.

Mr. Ershad is accompanied by his wife, Begum Raushan Ershad, and a 45-member delegation, officials said.

It is Mr. Ershad's seventh trip to China since seizing power in a 1982 bloodless coup. [passage omitted]

Opposition Calls General Strike To Protest Taxes

Ershad Withdraws Taxes on 7 Items

BK2706005090 Hong Kong AFP in English 2356 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Dhaka, June 26 (AFP)—President Hussain Mohammad Ershad Tuesday [26 June] ordered the withdrawal of taxes on seven items in Bangladesh's 1990-91 proposed budget amid opposition claims that the levies would hit the poor hard, the national television reported.

Prime Minister Kazi Zafar Ahmed told Parliament levies would be withdrawn on salt, kerosene, edible oil, soap, gas, cement and corrugated tin.

The television said Mr. Ershad took the decision following talks Monday with parliamentary opposition and Treasury Bench members.

The 129.6 billion taka (3.7 billion dollar) budget is now being debated in the ruling party-dominated Parliament and is expected to be passed sometime this week, parliamentary sources said.

Major opposition political groups have announced a day-long strike Thursday to protest what they said was a "budget to kill the poor."

Mr. Ershad was quoted by BSS [BANGLADESH NEWS AGENCY] news agency as saying at a rally Tuesday that the opposition was trying to "confuse people by resorting to unfounded movements."

Strike Grips Dhaka

BK2806071690 Hong Kong AFP in English 0707 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Dhaka, June 28 (AFP)—An opposition-called general strike protesting new tax proposals gripped Dhaka and most Bangladesh towns Thursday [28 June] amid calls for the resignation of President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, witnesses and police said.

The dawn-to-dusk strike, the first in recent years at the call of Bangladesh's disjointed and mutually-hostile opposition groups, took effect in the capital hours before General Ershad, who had dismissed most such demands since coming to power in the 1982 bloodless coup, left for China on a five-day state visit.

Most public and private vehicles were off the capital streets as shops, business houses and private offices kept their shutters down, witnesses said

Most government offices and banks remained open with fewer customers and little transactions.

Police and para-military units patrolled the capital's major roads and guarded government installations as small groups of strikers paraded the streets and shouted anti-government slogans.

No incidents had been reported, a metropolitan police official said.

The stoppage was called separately by the Awami League (AL) led eight-party alliance, the seven-party alliance dominated by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), a left-leaning five-party group and the rightist Jamaat-i-Islami party, to protest a proposal to levy taxes on essentials. [passage omitted]

Most schools, gas stations, bus terminals and bazaars in downtown Dhaka were closed, witnesses said.

The stoppage was also enforced in other Bangladesh towns including the port city of Chittagong, strikers said.

India

Tamil Nadu Minister Criticizes Sri Lanka

BK2706131290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] The Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr. Karunanidhi, has said that the Sri Lankan Government should stop killing its own people by dropping napalm bombs in civilian areas of the Jaffna peninsula. Speaking to newsmen in Madras today, he stressed the need to create a congenial atmosphere to find a lasting solution to the problem. According to agency reports, the chief minister said that a decision will be taken soon on the issue of deportation of Sri Lankan militants after consulting the union government. Mr. Karunanidhi said that the work on gathering information on militants in the state is in progress.

The AIADMK [All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazagham] has appealed to the center and the Tamil Nadu government to take firm steps to prevent killings by the Sri Lankan Tamil militants and maintain law and order in Tamil Nadu. The 37-member committee set up by the party general secretary, Ms. Jayalalitha, also called for appropriate steps to prevent annihilation of the Tamil race in Sri Lanka. The committee at its first meeting in Madras today alleged that the law and order situation in the state has deteriorated.

Urges Prime Minister To Act

BK2806091490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] India will make a renewed bid to end the fighting in the Northeastern Province of Sri Lanka between the armed forces and the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] and to end the killings of innocent Tamils there. This was conveyed to the Tamil Nadu chief minister, Mr. M. Karunanidhi, who spoke to the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, on the telephone twice this morning. Mr. Karunanidhi urged Mr. Singh to take urgent steps to stop the genocide of the Tamils in the Northeastern Province of Sri Lanka. A press note issued by the state government said that the people of Tamil Nadu have risen up as one man to condemn the bombing of Tamil areas in the island.

Meanwhile, in Sri Lanka, government soldiers defending the besieged Army fort in the north drove away Tamil rebels who tried to dig a tunnel to capture the strategic garrison. Official sources said in Colombo today that the Army is in complete control over Batticaloa, the flash point of the 17-day old civil war. Residents reported, troops were conducting house-to-house searches for rebels. They said life in the town is slowly returning to normal. Soldiers are fanning out into the forests, looking for rebels, blowing up their bunkers and neutralizing booby traps and buried mines. Similar rounding up operations are being conducted in all major cities, including the capital, Colombo.

Consultations Held on Meeting With Pakistan

BK2506151390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 25 Jun 90

[Text] Foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan will meet in Islamabad early next month to discuss the proposal for reducing tension on the borders. An External Affairs Ministry spokesman said in New Delhi today that Pakistan proposed Islamabad as the venue for the meeting, and India has not objected to it. However, the exact date for the meeting has not been finalized. On this, consultations are on between the two sides.

The proposal for a meeting between the foreign secretaries of the two countries came from Islamabad when it responded to India's proposals on confidence-building measures between the two sides. Among the measures proposed by India are the reiteration of the commitment to abide by the Simla Agreement, the exchange of information, and stoppage of aid to terrorists.

Leader of Outlawed Group Among Six Arrested

BK2806041090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, six terrorists were arrested by the security forces in a raid on their hideouts in Srinagar yesterday. They include a hard-core terrorist and a top leader of the outlawed Hizbul Mujahidin group. His name has not yet been disclosed for reasons of further investigation.

In Srinagar, curfew will be relaxed only for five hours from 0900 this morning.

JKLF Not To Attack Srinagar Police

BK2806053290 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 28 Jun 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] The largest of the separatist organizations in the Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir—the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front [JKLF]—has announced an important change in tactics, saying it will no longer attack the security forces in the capital, Srinagar. A report from Mark Tully in Delhi:

[Begin recording] The JKLF, as it is known, said attacks on security police provoke them to shoot innocent bystanders. But the JKLF did warn that it would increase its activities outside the capital. Only yesterday, a shopkeeper and a shopper were killed in Srinagar when a paramilitary policeman opened fire after being attacked. Three members of the public were killed in similar incidents outside Srinagar too.

After the new governor of Kashmir was appointed, he announced that he would introduce a security policy more acceptable to the public and would, in particular, take steps to prevent the security forces firing at random. The separate organizations immediately stepped up their attacks on the paramilitary police in order to provoke them to fire and discredit the new policy.

Meanwhile, the government in Kashmir is facing further problems because of the large number of Kashmir Hindus who fled the valley. The Kashmir government has had to rescind an order threatening disciplinary action against government employees who do not return to work in Srinagar. It had been a matter of prestige for the Kashmir government to move from its winter capital in the plains to the summer capital, Srinagar, but its claims that this proved life was normal in the valley were rendered somewhat hollow by the large number of employees who fled back to Jammu. [end recording]

Iran

International Earthquake Relief Effort Continues

French Official Denies Hindrance

LD2706135190 Tehran IRNA in English 1057 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 27, IRNA—A ranking French official Tuesday rejected fabrications of some foreign media alleging that operations of the foreign relief teams in Iran were hampered.

French Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Humanitarian Affairs Dr. Bernard Kouchner, told a press conference here that through proper planning Iran opened its borders to medical teams and rescue workers after the devastating quake of last Thursday [21 June] which killed thousands in northern and northwestern Iran last Thursday.

He noted that some 10 new medical teams of specialists as well as vaccination staff will arrive in Iran soon.

The French official said he had suggested to the Iranian officials to host a seminar on prediction, prevention and fighting off disasters, in Tehran in July.

Kouchner noted that the disaster provided an opportunity for peoples of Iran and France to get closer.

He praised efficiency of Iranian medical teams and said that the two countries could enjoy further cooperation in medical fields.

In the aftermath of the Thursday earthquake, the French official said, some 270 French doctors, relief workers and groups of civil defence experts equipped with advanced means were dispatched to the quake-affected areas.

He said that the French medical team will leave for France on Friday, but fresh teams will be dispatched to Iran soon.

Aid from U.S. Government, Others

NC2806063090 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] In continuation of the international relief effort for the survivors of the earthquake tragedy in our country's northern and northwestern provinces, the Argentine Government sent a consignment of 200 tonnes of rice and 500 tonnes of wheat to the quake victims today.

The American Government has also announced that the second consignment of American medical and other assistance totalling $470,000 has been sent to the Iranian earthquake victims through the Swiss Red Cross. REUTER reports that this consignment consists of electricity generators and 645 tents.

Also, a consignment of aid from the residents of northern California was sent to Iran yesterday. This five-tonne consignment, consisting of large quantities of medicines and foodstuff, was assembled by the center set up to collect aid from the people. The center has also placed another five-tonne consignment of medicine at the disposal of the headquarters of the center, which is based in the office looking after Iran's interests in Washington. Lufthansa airlines has undertaken to transport this five-tonne consignment free of charge from Berkeley to Frankfurt as an expression of sympathy toward the Iranian people and to deliver this consignment to Iranair in Frankfurt to be sent to Iran.

The official in charge of the Bank of New York branches has announced that by yesterday noon, more than $90,000 in cash donations by Iranians and by the people of America had been deposited in the special account number 5000 which has been opened to help the quake victims.

Also, the total amount of money deposited in two banks in London for the Iranian earthquake victims had reached 56,000 pounds sterling by yesterday afternoon. A large part of this amount was deposited in the account by non-Iranians living in Britain. A large quantity of medicine, 50 cartons of clothing, 200 blankets, and 180 overcoats collected by the World Council of Islam was taken in three batches to the airport yesterday and placed at the disposal of the Iranair offices to be sent to Iran.

The Japanese prime minister and ministers have given $8,000 from their personal accounts as help to the Iranian quake victims. This cash assistance was handed over by the Japanese Government spokesman to the ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Tokyo.

Iraqi Relief Plane Arrives

LD2706214990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Twenty-seven planeloads of relief from various countries consisting of medicine, foodstuff, and basic necessities landed at Mehrabad Airport from 0600 until 1700 today. On the basis of this report, four planeloads were dispatched to Tehran by Germany, eight by Saudi Arabia, six by the Emirates, two by Kuwait, two by Algeria, and one each by Egypt, Britain, Pakistan, Indonesia, Italy, and Iraq.

Dailies Note Political Controversies of Aid

LD2806092890 Tehran IRNA in English 0755 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 28, IRNA—The devastating earthquake of the last Thursday [21 June] which killed 40,000, injured 60,000 and left at least half a million homeless, and the massive relief aid offered by the international community, continued to remain the subject of editorials of the Iranian dailies on Thursday.

The controversy over the foreign relief aid began with an article in the morning daily JOHMURI-YE ESLAMI last Monday [25 June] which reacting to the U.S. aid to the victims said that the quake-victims even from underneath the rubble chant 'Death to America.' The article raised criticism and the English daily KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL describing the JOHMURI-YE ESLAMI article [as] irresponsible journalism said that the victims who have lost their loved ones and belongings are in no position to chant death to this or that.

JOMHURI-YE ELSAMI in its Thursday's [28 June] weekly commentary said, "although the world nations and governmeents rushed to help the quake victims on humanitarian grounds which must be thanked for their kindness, the catastrophe is so grave that foreign aids can only meet a small part of the needs in the short-run."

The daily believed, every Iranian citizen is expected to strive and endeavor unabatingly so as to make up for the huge losses caused by the destructive earthquake and construct the two quake-stricken provinces." [quotation marks as received]

The English daily KAYHAN INTERNATIONAL referring to foreign aid said, "the current calamity,..., has also shown that the same world which confronted Iran in some way or the other after the culmination of the Islamic revolution, has now kept aside all its evil designs it entertained about the Iranians and has come to their aid." [punctuation as received]

The paper's editorial underlined that the catastrophe "has gone a long way in demonstrating the truth that basically man is not a wicked creature."

"Asians, Africans, Arabs, Europeans, Americans and all those who sincerely helped or offered to help Iran deserve to be thanked by the nation," it added.

The other English-language daily TEHRAN TIMES underlined, "The international assistance has been made outside the framework of political relations of Iran with any one of the donating nations."

The daily's editorial, however, noted, "certain so-called hardline newspapers in Iran tried to once again look at the relief and related issues from a political angle."

"By sensationalizing the issue these media tried to stop the government from receiving aid and reliefs from some Muslim and Western countries," it voiced the conviction.

"In fact these papers' failure to draw a line between a merely humanitarian issue and foreign help within internationally recognized norms and intergovernmental political hostilities reflect their narrow mindedness, and their closing eyes on realities."

It further regretted, "These very same papers even try to make their views look as compatible with those of the leadership and the president."

But, the paper added, the leader "Ayatollah Khamene'i's appreciation of all the donating nations, President Hashemi's acceptance of foreign aid in his last week's televised interview and appreciation of other officials prove these papers inaccurate."

Khamene'i Speaks on Earthquake Relief Efforts

LD2706162190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Speech by Ayatollah 'Ali Hoseyni Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, at meeting with people of various strata on 27 June, place not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. We all return to Him. These days are days of great disaster for the Iranian nation. Disasters past and present. Disasters which befell this courageous nation during the past years, like the disaster involving the loss of the valuable martyrs of 28 June; those dear ones who were all—every single one of them—distinguished personalities during the revolution. [passage omitted].

These days, meanwhile, the nation is going through the great tragedy of the earthquake. This great divine test has befallen the Iranian nation. Truly the tragedy of the victims of this disaster, including the children, the women, the men, and the immaculate beings who were destroyed in that disaster, will not be forgotten by the nation. The earthquake disaster is truly a great disaster. In one moment tens of thousands of human beings were killed and tens of thousands of families were grief-stricken. Many people were made homeless. [passage omitted]

These are divine tragedies; these are bitter events of life. These are the events which make human beings feel sad. [passage omitted] Yet, from the point of view of understanding the significance of these events, people are different. Everybody sees the earthquake; everybody feels the bitterness of the tremors. But many fail to understand the event correctly; they fail to learn the lesson and to benefit from the event, though some others do learn their lesson. They do feel the bitterness, but their feeling is different from the feelings of others. These disasters are poison for some, while they are bitter medicine for others. [passage omitted]

Islam teaches us to learn what these events really are. Or better to say that Islam teaches us how to treat events such as these. Indeed there is no difference between bitter natural disasters—such as earthquakes, floods, and the like—and the bitter events which are created by people, such as wars, massacres and the like. These too are events. Islam looks at all these events in the same manner. [passage omitted] These events bring human beings closer to God. They turn their hearts toward God. [passage omitted]

Incidents like this are a test. This does not mean it is a test so that God can know us better, or a test enabling us to understand ourselves. It is neither of these. Rather it is a test for passing a phase, in being able to confront a heavy burden. The test is like a mountain pass along a route. You either cross this pass or get stuck behind it. There cannot be any alternative. The tragedies of the world are like heavy burdens which fall on your shoulder. You either lift this load without breaking your back, or you collapse helplessly under this load. There is no alternative. Almighty God puts such tests in front of individuals and nations so that these nations, by lifting these loads and by crossing these passes, can gain high status and reach the proper place they deserve. You should view the events in this perspective.

When a country, a nation, is facing the aftermath of an earthquake, how should it respond? Either all the individual members of this nation cross this rugged pass and take this bitter medicine, or they get stuck behind this pass. This is destiny-making. If you cross this pass successfully, you will be a winner and you will reach your destination. If you, the bereaved families of the tragedy, can remain patient, think of God, ask God to reward you, if you can tolerate the bereavement in your hearts and minds by thinking of God, if you can rise with determination and generosity to rebuild your ruined houses and begin life again by learning a lesson from this incident and making [your houses] stronger, then you will cross this pass with success. [passage omitted]

In the course of various events, our nation has proved that it is a kind of nation desired by God. Praise be upon this nation. In the course of all the bitter incidents,

during the war, during the 28 June incident, in the bloody incident of Mecca—bloody Friday—and various other incidents, our nation showed that it has not weakened in the face of tragedies. Rather it surmounted tragedies and applied every incident to learn a lesson. The incidents taught the nation to know its enemy. It understood to what extent the sinister hypocrites and global arrogance oppose Islam, and the Koran, and Islamic rule. In the course of various events of the past 11 years, our nation remained steadfast without any exception. It demonstrated its awareness and changed events to serve its purpose. The earthquake incident is the same. Now our people are showing and proving that this incident cannot weaken and depress them. They have weakened the incident. No doubt this incident brought pain to our hearts. No doubt some dear ones lost their lives and countless families were bereaved. But the movement of the Iranian nation and the strong and decisive presence of the nation's forces in the ranks of cooperation and assistance to the victims is a lesson to other nations. This shows the greatness of our nation. [passage omitted]

This incident was so massive that it drew the attention of the world. Today a great wave of human sentiment has been created among people all over the world, among human societies, popular organizations, and within every individual. The people of the Muslim countries in Asia and other regions naturally felt duty-bound to rush to assist their dear Muslim brothers. Many governments, both European and Asian, rushed to help the nation of Iran, and illustrated the feeling of greatness that the nation of Iran has left in the hearts of the people and their governments and statesmen. During the past 11 years you, the nation of Iran, have created great respect for yourself in the eyes of all people of the world. It is not a joke that a nation is living with so much greatness, courage and independence. By God, even your enemies have respect for your greatness in their hearts.

When this great, brave, and heroic nation confronts such a bitter and catastrophic event in this way, the world is shaken. The governments and nations rush to the field of relief work. We are grateful to all of them. Of course, the assistance given from all over the world to the Iranian nation is only a small part of what has been and will be done by our own nation and our government. It is you who should change this destruction into construction. It is you who should once again bring back life to these regions in a more active manner, and place balm on the wounds of the afflicted. The humane assistance given by others is also a significant gesture. It is a sign of affection toward the Iranian nation. We hope that God Almighty will make this great nation even more resilient than before in the face of such calamities.

In the course of the events during the past 11 years, you have become truly resilient. Therefore, in this catastrophe too the active presence of our forces has amazed foreign observers. This orderly organization, this speedy action, this relief and cooperation should still continue. Assistance to the stricken areas should not be stopped. The nature of the assistance is, of course, different. In the first few days the urgent needs had to be satisfied. As time passes the nature of the needs and requirements of those people assume different forms. They assume more humane and more complex forms. The government and the people should continue this help.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to the esteemed government of the Islamic Republic for its speedy action during this event; as well as to the Red Crescent of the Islamic Republic, to the armed forces, to various organizations. They all did well. They got to the place in time. I also with to thank all members of society. Truly, what can be seen today reminds one of the massive participation of the people and the mass mobilization of the people during the days of the imposed war. As this revolution is in God's name, it is always faced with satans. As it believes in supporting the oppressed and the deprived, it always clashes with the bullies, the arrogant, and the oppressors. As your movement is for the sake of humane values, those who are against humane values will always be opposed to you. You should be resilient. You should be equipped for the task both spiritually and emotionally.

This nation has raised aloft a great banner. The banner which you have unfurled has awakened the world. See what is happening in Palestine today. See what is happening in North Africa. See how Islam is regaining its rightful place in Islamic societies. You have done all this.

Islam was in retreat and in flight in the face of the blasphemous and arrogant culture. This is what they did to it. Of course, Islam will never retreat; but they had weakened the Muslims in such a way that they felt impotent. In the places where millions of Muslims have today succeeded in gaining a share and a right in their governments, up to yesterday, before the Islamic revolution, no one dared speak of Islam. In the Islamic countries where Friday [prayers] and congregational imams are getting organized and where mosques are becoming rejuvenated and are being turned into centers of movement, up until yesterday the mosques belonged only to a small number of old people, inactive old people. Today they have become the gathering places for youth. Today they are centers of movements. This is something which has been done by you. Your movement and your illustrious leader, that divine personage [Khomeyni], has achieved all this. It is due to this fact that the enemies of Islam are angry at you. The enemies of Islam will be hostile toward you as long as you do not give up your Islam.

However, the point is that the enemy wishes to say that if they are against someone, he should be destroyed. They indoctrinated weak nations with this idea, but now the opposite is being proved. Now it is proved that anyone who is against Islam should go [chants of Allah-o Akbar, slogans]. Islam has established itself in the world, and will continue to do so. Before your revolution, in some of the countries where today the people have raised aloft the banner of Islam, no one dared to say in public

that he was a Muslim, or to peform Islamic rites and say his prayers. Today their call of Allah-o Akbar has filled the air in those countries.

Whether world arrogance likes it or not, whether America likes it or not, whether Zionism likes it or not, Islam has reawakened. This mighty champion of centuries is once again holding the central position in the arena; and the enemies of Islam are unable to do anything about it. The most that they can do is to beat up and slaughter the Muslims in the immune sanctuary of God [the shrine in Mecca]. What else can they do? The most that they can do is to forbid this nation, which today is the most enthusiastic of Islamic nations in remembering God and the most in love with God's name, to go on pilgrimage to the House of God, as they have done. Yes, our hearts are filled with grief due to our deprivation from visiting the House of God. Our hearts are broken. We are grief-stricken. However, even this action of the enemies of Islam and their agents and mercenaries will again end up in the glory of Islam. The righteousness of the Iranian nation will become clearer. Being so wronged will further prove our rightfulness. Iranians will be missed in the House of God during the days of the hajj pilgrimage, but they will be in the thoughts of the pilgrims while they perform their pilgrimage rites. Those who a few years ago learned from you the slogans of Allah-o Akbar, disavowal of the infidels, and the unity of the Islamic ummah, today they will repeat the same slogans. This is the role of the Iranian nation. This nation should daily further strengthen itself, its morale, its heart, and its determination. The incident of the earthquake and similar calamities can also be a means for strengthening the determination of your great nation.

I again extend my condolences to those who have suffered from this colossal tragedy; the tragedy of the earthquake. I beseech them to have patience and place their trust in God; to have faith in God. Those who are patient will be rewarded by God. He will grant them great reward. You people should wholeheartedly continue your assistance. The government of the Islamic Republic, will, as it has—praise be to God—done so far, continue to perform at a very high standard, in terms of organization and relief work with speed and coordination. They should be on the alert to ensure that there are no satans among them [the relief teams] in the earthquake-stricken areas, perpetrating their mischievous acts among the people, in any way they can; to show their evil nature through various means, such as highway robbery, theft, inflicting harm, weakening of morals, and so on. The honorable judiciary should be prepared, since there are people who intend to profit from the misfortune of others; they should be punished.

I would like to thank all you gentlemen and sisters who are present here; the families of the honourable martyrs of the 28 June; the families of the martyrs, POWs, and MIAs from various towns; the brothers who have gathered to commemorate the memory of the martyrs from bloody Friday—the bloody Mecca; the brothers from the [Islamic] propagation organization; brothers from the Abu-Zar mosque; the dear brothers from the judicary, and the remaining groups who are present here. I hope that Almighty God will grant you all success. May God's blessings and benedictions be upon you all. [crowd chants repeatedly: Khamene'i is the leader, he is the inheritor of the prophet]

Activity Continues in Earthquake-Stricken Areas

Assemblyman, Workers Die Crash

LD2706165890 Tehran IRNA in English 1614 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 27, IRNA—Member of the Islamic Consultative Assembly from Fouman Mohammad-Hossein Eftekhari was killed along with a group of relief workers aboard a "Chinook" chopper which crashed on a mountainous area in southern Gilan Province Wednesday.

The condition of other persons aboard the chopper has not yet been announced.

The chopper Chinook belonged to "Havanirouz", the air support division for the ground force.

French Team Aids in Rescue

LD2706074890 Tehran IRNA in English 0647 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Rudbar, Gilan Province, June 27, IRNA—A mother and her son were pulled out of the debris alive in Kelishom village near here Tuesday [26 June] afternoon, six days after a catastrophic earthquake struck Gilan and Zanjan Provinces last Thursday.

The 40-year-old mother and her 12-year-old son were found critically injured and were immediately transferred to a hospital in the provincial capital of Rasht.

The rescue work was carried out by rescue teams from Hamadan Province and a French team. [passage omitted]

Tribunals Established

LD2706141190 Tehran IRNA in English 1113 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Rudbar, Gilan Prov., June 27, IRNA—Two field tribunals will be set up in the quake-stricken areas as of Thursday [28 June], head of judiciary Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi told reporters here Wednesday.

The ayatollah who was inspecting the quake-stricken Province of Gilan added that the two tribunals will be set up in Manjil and Rudbar cities, the worst hit towns of Gilan Province.

According to the judiciary head these tribunals are to put on trial the criminals who are abusing the situation in the areas devastated by last Thursday's powerful earthquake.

Red Crescent Chief on Casualties

LD2706172490 Tehran IRNA in English 1658 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 27, IRNA—The latest count by the Red Crescent Society has put the quake casualties at 100,000 and the number of homeless families at 105,000 homeless families.

Red Crescent head Seifollah Vahid Dastgerdi told a press conference here today that the society has rushed 10,000 relief workers, two thirds of whom from Tehran, to the quake-hit-areas along with 300 ambulances, medicines and foodstuff.

In addition, 70,000 tents, 150,000 blankets, over 1,000 tons of food, 4.5 million cans of processed fruit and juice, and 300,000 suits of clothes have been despatched, he said.

"So far 1.2 billion rials (over $17 million) has been deposited in the Red Crescent Society's account," added Dastgerdi.

He also thanked foreign countries and international organisations for their quake relief, and said that foreign medics and relief workers in Iran would complete their work in the next two weeks.

There remains no mountain village in the stricken areas which has not received relief aid, said Dastgerdi.

He disclosed that a plan has been drawn up to provide the homeless with permanent shelters before the cold season, and said that 10,000 pre-fabricated houses are being set up for them.

On acceptance of relief from Iraq, the Red Crescent chief said he knew nothing about it. However, he added that Iran will receive relief from Iraq just like any other country.

He said so far 175 flights have brought relief aid from abroad and that foreign medics and relief workers have done a good job, "I thank them all."

"We have no blood need since Iranians have supplied all the blood needed for quake-stricken areas. Our problem in the early days of the quake was only blood bags which were urgently bought from Japan and West Germany. Besides, some countries donated blood bags to Iran," he said.

No cases of cholera has been reported from quake areas, said the Red Crescent chief, but as precautionary measures and in order to avoid risk of contaminated water, oral typhoid vaccines have been asked for the areas.

He said there was no difference of opinion among Iranian officials concerning foreign relief aid, since the Red Crescent is a popular humanitarian organisation, the government therefore has agreed with receiving the aid.

Cabinet Discusses Operations

NC2806083390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0330 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] The cabinet met yesterday. During the meeting respect was paid to martyr Ayatollah Dr. Beheshti and to other martyrs of the 7 Tir tragedy [28 June 1981 Islamic Republic Party headquarters bombing] on the anniversary of the tragedy.

Then Mr. Nuri, minister of interior and the government's special representative in the earthquake relief effort, submitted a report to the cabinet on measures and decisions in relation to the preparation of a program for the temporary and permanent housing of the earthquake victims, the mobilization of forces for the agricultural harvest in the earthquake-stricken area, and the organization of relief operations.

During this meeting a report was also submitted to the cabinet by the commission studying the country's transportation problems, and decisions were adopted.

IRGC Relief Operations

NC2806104490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] In its fifth communique, the general headquarters of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps [IRGC] reports on relief operations and assistance to the earthquake-stricken areas. It also reports on the steps taken by the four forces as well as by the general headquarters of the IRGC in the fifth phase of mobilizing popular assistance to supply the needs of the earthquake-stricken areas. These steps include the dispatch of various statistics teams to collect casualty figures and to dig up the belongings and property of the people from underneath the rubble in the area and remove them to a safe place. So far, more than 1,200 trucks carrying such goods have been dug up and removed.

The setting up of three camps with more than 3,500 tents in three areas in Rudbar to house the earthquake victims temporarily, and the dispatch of a 1,100-strong medical and relief team and nine ambulances, a large quantity of medicine and medical equipment, and 81 fuel and water tanks, as well as 8,300 liters of fuel and 68 light and heavy vehicles, to the earthquake areas were among the other operations by the IRGC in the fifth phase of its operations.

In addition, aid collected from the people by the IRGC, consisting of items needed by the earthquake survivors, namely, more than 106 tonnes of foodstuff and 30 tonnes of fruit and other items, have been sent to the

earthquake-stricken areas. Also, more than 100 million rials in cash has been collected from the people for the earthquake victims.

Meanwhile, in continuation of the assistance and relief to the earthquake-stricken areas and in the wake of the announcement of readiness by the various cities and villages in various provinces to help in the reconstruction of the cities and villages afflicted by the earthquake, the Bushehr governor general has announced that the province is ready to undertake the reconstruction of one of the earthquake-stricken cities in Gilan and that the province's Islamic Revolution Housing Foundation will undertake the reconstruction plan. Bushehr province has sent 50 truckloads and four planes of assistance from the province's residents to the earthquake-stricken provinces in the north and northwestern parts of the country.

Housing of Survivors

NC2806111990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] The Ministry of Reconstruction Jihad has undertaken the temporary housing of villagers in eight hamlets in the Rudbar area, the task of finding new living quarters for the villagers of the area and gathering them into these quarters, developing the destroyed villages as far as water distribution and construction materials are concerned, helping in the dredging of the area's rivers, and solving the farming problems of the earthquake-stricken areas.

This was stated by Mr. Lahijanian, one of the deputies of the Ministry of Reconstruction Jihad, who added: The Reconstruction Jihad offices in Tehran, Mazandaran, Khorasan, Hamadan, Fars, and Markazi Provinces will solve the problems of Rahmatabad and Dasht-e Veyl, Barasar, Pirkuh, Jirandeh and Kelishom, Markazi, and Rostamabad areas respectively. Mr. Lahijanian also stated that the Reconstruction Jihad offices in Esfahan and East Azerbaijan Provinces will participate in the reconstruction of the Upper and Lower Tarom areas.

Filipino Envoy Gives Rafsanjani Aquino Message

LD2606114190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 26 Jun 90

[Text] Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, president, this morning met Mr. Tumano, special envoy of the president of the Philippines. According to the Central News Unit, in this meeting, Mr. Tumano, while conveying profound condolences on the part of the president, Government, and people of the Philippines on account of the recent earthquake, submitted a written message from the Philippines' president conerning issues related to the Muslims of that country.

In a part of this message , our country's president was praised for his role in supporting Muslims. The message adds: I am aware of your concern for problems related to the Muslims of Philippines and I am informing Your Excellency that our government is committed to following up these problems and solving them by peaceful means. The Philippines president's special envoy, in this meeting explained that a huge current has been created as a result of the humanistic thoughts of Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be accepted in God's paradise. The envoy said: We can today observe the impact in our country. Next, Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, thanking Corazon Aquino, president of the Philippines, and remarking on the plan concerning the problems of the Muslims of that country, said: The Islamic Republic of Iran expects the Philippines to treat Muslims in such a way that would be acceptable to them; and were the Philippines Government to move along this direction, it would have our support.

Algerian Oil Minister Pays 24-Hour Visit

Discusses Oil Prices

LD2306212290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 23 Jun 90

[Text] Sadek Boussena, Algerian Oil and Petrochemical Minister, arrived in Tehran today on a 24-hour visit to discuss with Oil Minister Aqazadeh the present situation in the oil market and ways to tackle the decrease in its price.

In an interview with our correspondent, the Algerian oil minister expressed Algeria's sympathy for the earthquake tragedy, and said that in view of Iran's experiences as a veteran oil-producing country, and the proximity of the next OPEC ministerial session, he will be discussing the issue of oil production and pricing with Iran's oil minister.

The Algerian oil minister, who had visited a few other oil-producing countries in the Persian Gulf regions prior to his visit to Tehran, added that all OPEC countries are in unanimous agreement with regard to the adoption of common initiatives toward attaining an oil price of $18 per barrel. He expressed the hope that the forthcoming OPEC session, which will be convened next month, will prepare the groundwork for the adoption of common initiatives by OPEC members toward improving oil prices.

In his meeting with our country's oil minister, while expressing the condolences of the Algerian people on the earthquake tragedy in Iran, he reiterated the need for cooperation and unanimity of action between all oil producers so as to prevent fluctuations in the oil market, and reviewed the cooperation between the oil-producing countries.

According to a Central News Unit report, Mr. Aqazadeh for his part stressed the need for the adoption of serious and practical intiatives by the oil-producer towards the control of the oil market and oil prices.

Departs After Talks

LD2406133190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 24 Jun 90

[Text] The Central News Unit reports that Mr. Boussena, the Algerian oil minister, who had come to Tehran to hold talks with our country's oil minister, left for home this morning.

Before leaving he declared the sympathies and regret of the government and people of Algeria with regard to the recent tragic earthquake. He described the outcome of his talks with our country's oil minister as positive.

Referring to the importance of affixing official prices at the next OPEC session, he said: The OPEC members should preserve their unity. We hope to reach a series of collective agreements in the next session.

During his stay in Tehran Mr. Boussena discussed with Mr. Aqazadeh ways of preventing falling oil prices, stablizing the market, and making preparations for the next OPEC session.

Regarding the Algerian oil minister's visit and the outcome of their talks, our country's oil minister said: the two countries reached an agreement about increasing prices and affixing OPEC official prices. We hope that the 13 OPEC members will reach a lasting agreement at the next session.

Referring to the fact that at present the price of oil is below official OPEC rates, he said: The Islamic Republic of Iran insists that prices should rise. No serious agreement can be reached in the next session without achieving official prices.

It should be pointed out that Mr. Boussena previously held talks with the oil minister of the UAE and Iraq, and will meet the Kuwaiti and Saudi oil ministers in the next few days. After collecting the views of the Persian Gulf coastal states, he will hold talks with countries outside the Persian Gulf region.

Commentary Hails Islamic 'Might' in Algeria

LD1306124990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1053 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] Only few hours after the Algerian local elections, various news agencies announced early this morning that the Islamic Salvation Front of Algeria [FIS] has gained remarkable success in these elections [passage omitted]. The FIS, which was officially recognized in the month of Shahrivar last year [August-September] staged rallies and marches with extensive participation of the Algerian people, and especially that country's youth. In line with the publicity campaign, the 100,000 marchers of the FIS on 19 April clearly demonstrated a might which proved the deep influence of the Islamic fundamentalists [Islam Garayan] and drew the attention of political observers to the fact that the immense Islamic might can be regarded as the greatest destiny-making factor in Algeria's political arena. These observers believed that the Islamic fundamentalist movement of Algeria is not a movement that could be confined within the borders of that country, for this movement is taking place alongside the increasing wave of the return to Islam, which has simultaneously engulfed all countries of North Africa. The recent success of the Islamic fundamentalists in the municipal elections can, therefore, be considered as an inspiration to similar movements in North Africa.

Although the grounds for comparing the revival of Islam are different in various countries of North Africa, especially compared to Algeria, and most of the regimes ruling over those countries confront these movements. One fact becomes clear: As soon as the slightest opportunity is given by the governments, Islamic movements can prove their power and popularity among the people of their country. But within Algeria itself, in view of the fact that various factions and parties exist in Algeria which oppose that country's Islamic movement and have even resorted to organizing some coalition in order to control the movement, the recent success of the FIS can be regarded as a basis for the growth and strengthening of the Islamic fundamentalists and also for the better organization of Algeria's Muslim parties, so that through further consolidation they can continue playing their decisive and destiny-making role in that country's future elections, such as the parliamentary elections.

Cooperation Protocol Signed With Oman 20 Jun

LD2006223390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] The Omani minister of post, telegraph, and telephone, visiting our country at the invitation of his Iranian counterpart, signed a protocol on bilateral cooperation and left Tehran this afternoon at the end of a four-day visit to Iran.

Before leaving our country, in an interview with the reporter of the Central News Unit, he referred to the long-standing relations between Iran and Oman, and said: This visit was a very good opportunity for us to witness the Iranian achivements since the victory of the Islamic revolution. He added: The agreement to establish a joint cooperation committee, and also cooperation and coordination in various fields, were among the most important achievements of this visit.

Our country's minister of post, telegraph and telephone, also in an interview with our correspondent, announced satisfaction at his Omani counterpart's visit to Iran. He expressed the hope that the two nations would witness, within the next few months, further expansion of ties.

On the agreements reached, Mr. Gharazi said: We presented appropriate ideas to the Omani brothers on post, telecommunications, satellite, and research technology, which they found interesting, and it was decided that action should be taken in those fields.

IRGC Encounters 'Outlaw' Group in Kordestan

LD2006152790 Tehran IRNA in English 1323 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] Bakhtaran, June 20, IRNA—Some 18 anti-revolutionaries were killed and 10 others captured in a military operation launched by the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC) in Javanrud region, Kordestan Province, last week.

"A large amount of arms, explosives and documents belonging to anti-revolutionaries was also seized in the 3-day guerrilla operations," Morteza Qorbani, an IRGC commander told IRNA Tuesday [19 June]. Qorbani quoted a captured outlaw commander as saying that the group intended to block Paveh-Bakhtaran road and attack Javanrud and Marivan towns, but their plot fell through thanks to the vigilance of Muslim combatants and cooperation of local people.

"Plans are already underway to weed out anti-revolutionary groups from the region," he said.

Outlaw 'Abdel 'Abdollahi who was captured in the operations, said that the saboteurs had been armed and dispatched to the Islamic Republic by Iraq-based anti-Islamic revolution groups.

'Abdollahi confessed that contrary to what had already been said he was highly impressed by the humane behaviour of the IRGC personnel towards the captives and felt repentant and ashamed.

Layeq Ekrami, another captive admitted that the group had been commissioned to target military and economic centers inside Iran and to exhort money from cars travelling in the region.

Letters Exchanged on Islamic Revolution Chief

LD2006221290 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1700 GMT 20 Jun 90

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, the leader of the Islamic revolution and the commander in chief of the Armed Forces, in response to the proposal of Interior Minister Nuri, while expressing his appreciation to Serajod-Din Musavi and the commanders of the Islamic Revolution Committee, agreed with the appointment of Mokhtar Kalantari as the chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Committee. The text of the letter of the interior minister to the commander in chief of the Armed Forces is as follows:

In His exalted name. The blessed presence of the illustrious leader of the Islamic revolution and the esteemed commander in chief of the Armed Forces, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, may God extend his shadow upon the heads of the Muslims. With greetings, respectfully in view of the resignation of Seyyed Serajod-Din Musavi, the esteemed chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Committee, from his post, while expressing my gratitude and appreciation for his sincere efforts—and truly during the period of his service in that sacred organization he never refrained from any sincere effort—I propose Brother Mokhtar Kalantari as the chief commander of the Islamic Revolution Committee to the esteemed leader, so that in case you agree you order the decree of his appointment to be issued.

[Signed] 'Abdollah Nuri, interior minister.

[Dated] 28.3.69 [18 June 1990].

The text of the letter of His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, to the interior minister is as follows:

In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. Your Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuri, esteemed minister of interior, may your blessings continue. I agree with your proposal. I should express my thanks for the valuable efforts of His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Serajod-Din Musavi. He will still remain as my representative in the Islamic Revolution Committee. The dear guards of the Committee have always been the devoted soldiers of the revolution, and will continue to be in the future. God willing, they will continue their valuable efforts with optimism and enthusiasm. I beseech God Almighty for the success of Your Excellency and His Excellency Mokhtar Kalantari.

[Dated] 20 June 1990.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i.

*RESALAT Report on 15 May Majles Session

90AS0096A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 16 May 90 p 5

[Text]

Can One Reach Self-Sufficiency Without Research and Supporting the Specialists and Researchers?

The first pre-agenda speaker of the open session of the Majles yesterday was Mr. Seyyed 'Ali Akbar Taha'i, from the Tonokabon and Ramsar electoral district, who began his speech with a reference to the approaching anniversary of the imam's death. Quoting a sentence from the imam's last will and testament, he said: "It is the duty of the governments and officials both in this generation and in future generations to appreciate their specialists, to encourage their work with material and spiritual help, to prevent the entry of consumer producing and destructive goods, to manufacture what they are able to so that they can build everything." In another part of his last will and testament, the imam clarifies and emphasizes this issue: "With determination, hard work, and perseverance, rise up to eliminate dependency and know that the Aryan and Arab races have nothing less than the Europeans, Americans, and Soviets. My last will and testament to everyone is to move forward with the thought of God Almighty to self-knowledge, self-sufficiency, and independence in all their dimensions. Undoubtedly, God will

be with you if you serve Him. Continue the spirit of cooperation for the progress and advancement of the Islamic country."

The speaker added: The Majles and the honorable government, in devising the Five-Year Plan, have made an effort to implement this part of the imam's statements in his blessed and immortal last will and testament. Note 30 of the Five-Year Plan places an important mission on the shoulders of the serving government headed by Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani to establish the supreme council for determining and studying the consumer model. I beg the president to expedite the implementation of Note 30 of the Five-Year Plan for the establishment of the Supreme council for determining and studying the consumer model and to pay emphatic attention to this important issue of the imam's last will and testament.

He said explicitly: Can one reach self-sufficiency without research and supporting the specialists and researchers? Can research be strengthened in this country without respect for and value placed on researchers above the level of a mere accountant for developmental plans? Of course, the accountant must be respected, but what I request is that respect also be given to the researcher, who must address the issues and try to solve them. He must also be paid at least the same attention which an accountant is paid. The imam said: "Appreciate your specialists by giving them material and spiritual support." We must provide resources for the specialists.

Let us consider that last year alone hundreds of millions of dollars were put into the pockets of multinational companies for the import of wheat. The land and large economic establishments connected with the wheat that we buy from various countries undoubtedly belongs to the multinational companies with roots in global oppression. Have we made a fundamental investment of even 10 percent of the foreign currency which we have poured into the pockets of multinational companies for imports of wheat to strengthen specialists and establish research in this country? This important matter must be given attention. Of course, I thank Dr. Mo'in, the honorable minister of culture and higher education, who has paid particular attention to the expansion of applied specialized courses. Because at present we are celebrating Free University Week, it is necessary to point out this educational method, which is parallel to that of the government and complements the government's efforts to enhance the climate of higher education. However, I also plead with the central administration of the Free University, in support of this step by the Ministry of Higher Education, to make a special effort to strengthen and emphasize the direction of higher education at the Free University towards expanding applied specialized courses.

Mr. Taha'i added: Once again we have ahead of us Mines Week. And as a member of the Industries and Mines Committee, I find it necessary to refer to the efforts made in the copper and aluminum sector and those which are underway in the national steel sector and to thank the honorable minister of mines and metals for his specialized attention to this matter. At the same time, I find it necessary to point out the appointment of a hard-working and compassionate individual by the name of Engineer Aslani as the manager of the Sarcheshmeh copper complex, which is a well-known element in the industries sector of the country and is considered an effective and constructive example of progress in production in our country. I suggest to the government that it help this administration in the copper complex so that, God willing, the plan that the administration has prepared will be implemented in 1370 [21 March 1991-20 March 1992], and production will be brought up to 145,000 tons.

The representative of the people of Tonokabon and Ramsar reminded the Ministry of Mines and Metals and all the ministries engaged in serious and fruitful efforts towards advancement in production that they must strive to protect and preserve the hezbollah forces: During the war years, when some people under the pretext of the unrest in the country and the war regions stopped research and studies, it was the hezbollah forces, that group of compassionate people, who worked hard. Today, specialization must be defended and noted, but not at the price of dismissing the committed hezbollah forces. I hope all our compassionate friends in the ministries take this important matter into consideration, because in order to strengthen our serving government, headed by Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the way is to both defend and support the specialists and also to commend the committed persons who defended the revolution during the harsh years of the war and protected the values of the revolution for the continuation of their service and productivity.

In another part of his speech, he referred to the efforts of the Ministry of Industries, particularly those started in the industries sector, and said: With the efforts that are underway and the activities which have been initiated, God willing, we will be able to bring cement production in the future to 30 million tons. Of course, what I said requires efforts for which the preparation and early plans have been made, and essentially the direction in the Ministry of Industries for manufacturing fundamental products is worthy of praise.

Thanking the efforts of the director general of the Kish development organization, Mr. Yazdanpanah, he asked the government to identify competent and strong managers, praise them, and transfer their experiences and views to others.

Mr. Taha'i addressed the Majles deputies and the people and said: Today, economic problems are among the most vital problems of our revolution. But economic problems must be resolved through economic solutions and not political ones. Economic problems cannot be solved with political answers. To solve economic problems with scientific and economic solutions, the economic science departments and the agricultural economic sector must begin serious efforts in this regard. I recommend to the

serving government that it mobilize our economics departments to study the economic problems of our society today scientifically, to categorize them in the universities, and to have students and professors discuss them. If they need financial resources, the government has the duty to place these resources at the disposal of the universities. It is unfortunate to us that we are able to procure seed-improved potatoes at $700 a ton from Holland and then to have to announce the price of potatoes from our farmers this year at 65 rials per kilo. At the price of the dollar on the market today, $700 per ton means that we are paying 90 tomans per kilo to the Dutch, but we have failed to support our farmers. We must pay attention to this point. That is why I say that economic problems require economic solutions and not political solutions.

The speaker continued: We must replace administrative accounting with economic auditing. If we pay attention to this important matter and value it, we shall find out that importing hundreds of millions of dollars worth of wheat from abroad and over $100 million in rice from abroad, and depositing the money in the pockets of the multinational companies, is not a proper thing to do, when our farmers are so worried about even procuring a spare part.

In conclusion, Mr. Taha'i thanked Dr. Kalantari, the minister of agriculture, for employing the authentic forces in the animal husbandry and livestock sector and pointed out: Now that we are going to have a Ministry of Jihad, we cannot help but confer the forestry, pastures, livestock, and birds sector to the Ministry of Jihad, so that these two divisions take stronger steps towards self-sufficiency.

Response of the Minister of Health to the Question of the Hamadan Deputy on the Operations of the Jaber Ebn-e Hayan Company

Legislative and parliamentary Division:

The continuation of the investigation of the report of the Islamic Guidance and Art Committee concerning the legislative proposal on the procedures for the implementation of Article 175 of the Constitution in the area of supervision was the first item on the agenda of yesterday's session of the Majles. After the speeches of the opponents and the supporters and the views of the spokesman of the committee and the representative of the government, the main proposal was put to a vote, and its general points were ratified.

This report indicates that the second item on the agenda was the division of the duties of the Ministries of Agriculture and Construction Jihad, with one priority. After the speeches of the supporters and opponents and the views of the representative of the government were given, its one priority was put to a vote and ratified by the representatives.

According to this report, the next item on the agenda was the bill to amend Paragraph B of Note 28 of the 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] budget law with a priority two, which was ratified after the opposing and supporting speeches.

According to the report of the parliamentary correspondent of RESALAT, the last item on the agenda was the question posed by Dr. Gholam Hoseyn Aqa'i, the representative of Hamadan, to Dr. Fazel, the minister of health, treatment, and medical education.

Statements of Mr. Aqa'i

Explaining his question, he declared Jaber Ebn-e Hayan in violation and said: The least of this company's violations is not having had a manufacturing permit and therefore the right to mass produce and distribute medicine. But, as verified by the director general of administrative affairs of the Ministry of Health, although it did not have a drug-manufacturing permit until 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987], this factory (according to statistics that I have obtained form the ministry) distributed drugs from 1360-1365 [1981-1987] without a permit and from 1365-1367 [1986-1989] with a permit that has problems.

My question is, why has the violator not been dealt with? What is the reason for this factory's inability to obtain a permit? The reason was that the drugs it produced were not usable, and all the samples that it gave to the laboratories were unusable. It even tried to get help from the World Health laboratories. They wrote a letter in which three approved cases were used as evidence to obtain a permit. Still it was not accepted. The reason they could not obtain a permit was that the drugs were unusable.

The second violation concerns how it distributed a drug that it could not properly produce. This, too, like the drugs that have been mentioned frequently, is unusable. Those that were identified were destroyed. In one year, 80,000 rials worth of one-gram cephalexin was destroyed. Its price, now that I think about it, is 18 tomans on the market, which brings the total to nearly 13 million tomans. In one year, this much was destroyed, and these are the drugs that were distributed under the watch of the officials.

The third violation is the issue of the use of the treasury. It distributes the unusable drugs. This harms both human life and the treasury. And with the destruction of the medicine, the next problem occurs.

The laboratory has said officially that this drug is unusable. Yet, it has been distributed. The case is known. In 1364 [21 March 1985-20 March 1986], it was produced and, with full knowledge that it was bad, it was distributed. See what its offense is according to the law.

The next instance of the violations of this company is conspiracy to obtain a permit. Because the quality of its drugs was so poor, through a conspiracy, the drug that is unusable is reported to be usable in an ambiguous fashion. The fact is that the tester has confessed that he

has not tested the small portion that is our evidence. But they say, We tested it and we forgot to write it down on the test form. This same medicine which they reported in an ambiguous fashion to be usable, so that a permit could be issued for the factory to operate legally from then on, when we examined it in 1368 [21 March 1989-20 March 1990], was still unusable. The documents are here with notes that the same drug on the basis of which a permit was obtained was unusable and was ordered to be recalled. Most painful is that this problem, which was addressed in 1367 [21 March 1988-20 March 1989] continued in the following year. Many months ago, I went to Dr. Fazel. He said that it would be resolved; they would follow up and investigate it. I said, okay, it will be investigated. We returned in 1369 [1990] to see what was going on, whether they had dealt with it or not. I request that Engineer Chitchiyan say whether or not he saw it. We asked for samples of all the products after this incident in 1368 and 1369 [1989-1990]. We examined them. They were unusable. They knew themselves the factory had such a problem. Not even once did they do a particle test. They said it could go ahead and produce: We will look the other way while you distribute. They did not test it. The cases that they did test were tested as a result of complaints from outside that this drug was unusable.

Statements of Dr. Fazel

Dr. Fazel, the minister of health, treatment, and medical education, responded: I shall explain briefly about this Jaber Ebn-e Hayan company. I do not intend by any means to defend the events that have occurred in the past and do not intend to justify them. The Jaber Ebn-e Hayan company, acting under the control of the national industries organization, is the producer of an antibiotic. What has been stated in this connection by Dr. Aqa'i concerns mostly one item of medicine called cephalexin. At the present, this company has 49 pharmaceutical permits and is the major producer of penicillin and cephalexin in the country. Most of it is produced by this company. Since 1359 [21 March 1980-20 March 1981], the permit for the production of a number of drugs, including cephalexin in generic form, was given to this company. According to the vote of the drug distribution law committee, the agreement in principle with the Jaber Ebn-e Hayan company for procuring the above-mentioned drugs, including cephalexin, was announced. This company imported the cephalexin products, which after laboratory tests were announced unacceptable due to the existence of particles in the drug. This is announced to the above-mentioned company by such organizations as the general office of pharmaceutical affairs. In 1361, 1362, and 1363 [21 March 1982-20 March 1985], the company distributed a part of the cephalexin which had been approved by the laboratory of the company without the permission of the Ministry of Health at the time. Of course, considering the difference of opinion of the factory control laboratory, ultimately a sample of the dial cephalexin was sent to the international authorities. There it was analyzed. There were no particles.

He continued: The procurement of the raw materials was done by permission of the Ministry of Health, which was approved by the drug-manufacturing law committee, and in this connection no violation occurred.

Secondly, the dial cephalexin was produced with the permission and approval of the legal committee on drugs. There was no violation.

This issue can be investigated, and ultimately a court will have to rule on what the effects were and whether it was proper or not. The expert supervising drug affairs in general obliged the company to recall (rigoral), some of which was collected.

The minister of health also said: The issues that I must address for the representatives, and I am mostly referring to the present situation, are that Dr. Aqa'i continuously refers to documents and waves pieces of paper in the air, suggesting that there are things on these papers—if you only knew what great violations and strange things are happening in the country. He refers to many instances, and one wonders, with so many positive documents that he is keeping, with so many documents, is there no law in this country, no officials, nothing, no one investigating anything? Suppose the ministries are not investigating. You could give such shocking documents to other authorities who can investigate them, as they did for three or four years on a large scale, which did not get anywhere. The files are available.

Rebuttal of the Hamadan Deputy

After the speech of Dr. Fazel, Dr. Aqa'i once again spoke and said: They have not committed a violation. They had a permit. If they can, they should officially announce that they had an official permit. We have no argument. Because his general manager announced it? According to the investigations made and the available history in this general office, no permit for the manufacture of cephalexin was issued before 1365 [1986-1987]. Let them claim in this one case, if they can, that having a permit for mass production of medicine and its distribution is not necessary.

Their general director wrote that it is obvious that permits must be issued for producing drugs. He said that the distribution of drugs was handled without the approval of the laboratory. The problem is not the laboratory. The problem is that your general office of pharmaceutical production has given a permit for distribution of a drug which has not been approved, not which laboratory has investigated it. Then it was said that it was sent to international agencies and approved. This is a letter that, if you have read it yourself, you will note states that of the four cases that this letter documents, two were rejected. The factory official has also lied about it. Here, he has written a letter that after the samples were sent, they were determined not to have particles. In other words, he has lied to the ministry. And then the minister comes here and says this, whereas even there, of the four cases, two were rejected. Then I am told that I

am not qualified to identify particles. First of all, identifying particles is not very difficult to do. But is the general office of supervision over drugs also not qualified in this? Everything that I state is what your general office of supervision over drugs has rejected.

In conclusion, he said: Mr. Fazel said that it was investigated for years, and nothing was found, and then they released those individuals. But the contrary is true. It was investigated for years, and the evidence was very strong. They could not acquit them. The case has reached a stalemate. Those who were in charge of the whole thing have been freed on bail. The case has reached a stalemate. They are out on bail.

It should be mentioned that in the end, Dr. Aqa'i was not convinced by the explanations of the minister of health, treatment, and medical education. Hence, the question was sent for further investigation to the committee on answering questions.

Sarban of Arak Deputy's Analysis of Reasons for Migration of Villagers to Cities

Mr. Mahmud Astaneh, the representative of the people of Sarband of Arak, was the second pre-agenda speaker of the open session of the Majles yesterday. He referred in his speech to the reasons for the migration of villagers to cities and said: A look at the statistics shows that more than half the population of the country is concentrated in cities, especially in Tehran and the provincial capitals, while in 1335 [21 March 1956-20 March 1957], the urban population was 16 million and the rural population 18 million. According to the 1365 [21 March 1986-20 March 1987] census, unfortunately, we witnessed an urban population of 27 million and a rural population of 22.5 million. The greatest contributing factor to the migration of villagers is the clear difference between urban and rural living. The nation of Iran, with more than 65,000 villages and with potential talents and, most important of all, human and natural resources, can revitalize its economic independence. Now, due to the lack of attention to the problems of villagers, every day we witness the destruction and evacuation of villages. With every village that is evacuated and whose population migrates to the city, numerous springs and subterranean canals [qanats] dry up, and unused green land turns dry. Animal husbandry and poultry raising are abandoned and objects and buildings are destroyed. Moreover, the volume of unspeakable marginal living in cities and make-shift dwellings are on the increase, and producers become consumers and go into artificial jobs.

Then, referring to the major differences and discrimination between cities and villages, he said: Despite the very valuable services which after the victory of the Islamic revolution have taken place in the villages and oppressed areas of the country and which have compensated for the oppression and the false policies of the monarchical regime, unfortunately, the following are, all in all, factors in the migration of villagers to the cities: 1) the low income level of villagers, particularly non-farming residents of villages; 2) cultural poverty, lack of distribution and the existing complex bureaucratic system; 3) the lack of profit in agricultural activities and small or domestic rural industries; 4) the shortage of agricultural land, available water and agricultural machinery; 5) the existence of unemployment and unsatisfactory employment which is seasonal; 6) the shortage of schools, particularly high schools, and the lack of activities in technical and trade education centers; 7) the severe shortage of physicians, medicine, and health and treatment resources; 8) the lack of proper roads and vehicles; 9) the indeterminate situation of most arable lands that are in the form of partnerships or are religious endowment lands endowed to individuals or public partnerships or are tied up in the courts with the claims and complaints of landlords; 10) the lack of electricity, telephone, gas, water, clean baths, proper entertainment, and sports; 11) the numerous self-help [as published] in building baths, installation of water pipes, roads, electricity, etc; and finally, 12) the consumption of bread at a minimum of 150 rials per kilo. But the city dwellers benefit from schools, universities, and medical services in public and private hospitals as well as the existence of large buildings and abundant housing, properly clean, with urban services, water and electricity, and most importantly gas and telephones, with a variety of stores with different goods, cinemas, theaters, the press, the mass media, roads and good streets with lots of cars and buses, and most importantly the availability of a variety of jobs, the use of government facilities and subsidies, especially with the price difference of three-quarters less than that of villages, and the expansion of economic activities which create jobs in the administrative, transport, commerce, and other service sectors and which are concentrated in the cities, and dozens of other things encourage the migration of the villagers to the cities to find work and a better income. Many of the wealthy and influential political individuals live in the urban areas. Most of those who have a higher education and consequently are in high positions in government organizations have come from cities and are insufficiently informed about the problems of the rural regions. Moreover, many city dwellers often consider the villagers beneath themselves. We must change this type of thinking and know that the more money is spent on the expansion of cities, the more people will migrate from the villages to the cities, and the situation both in the urban areas and the rural areas will worsen for the poor, and consequently rural poverty will infect the cities as well.

The deputy of the people of Sarband of Arak, as a deputy of 284 villages in the region, said: The villages of the country must not be forgotten as the price of building and expanding the cities. I suggest that rapid steps be taken to create rural centers and societies which will play a strong role in the expansion of villages. These centers will be important places for villages for procuring agricultural needs and services, a market for the produced goods and a source for gaining access to new methods

and techniques. The possibility of offering health, treatment, education, and other services is greater in such centers, considering that the population of the rural regions is increasing and, on the other hand, agricultural land is limited. In conclusion, he asked the ministers of health, treatment, and culture and higher education to implement the legislative plan for the 40-percent share of the combatants in the field of mathematics and physics and for such medical areas as eyes, ears, nose, and throat, heart, and orthopedics.

On the Whole, Actions Must Be Carried Out Within the Framework of Law, and the Decision-Making and Rules of Individuals Must Be Prevented

Mr. Hashem-Zehi, the Khash deputy, was the last pre-agenda speaker of yesterday's session of the Majles. He first sent greetings to the victorious spirit of the imam and wished a long life for the grand leader of the revolution, and, referring to the Saudis preventing the sending of the Iranian pilgrims to the pilgrimage, said:

The tragedy of Tir 1366 [22 June-22 July 1987] was the height of the open crimes of the usurping rulers over the Arabian Peninsula against the Islamic revolution of Iran and the brave Muslim people of Iran. The bloody tragedy of holy Mecca is further clear evidence that proves the viewpoint and ideology of the Arab reactionaries in the area of political issues in the world and which is not only dangerous for the volatile region of the Persian Gulf, but for the whole of the Islamic world. This unforgivable tragedy showed the Islamic world what elements and ideologies threaten the region of the Islamic world, due to the significance and activities of the Persian Gulf.

The speaker added: Bitter events such as the imposed war, the bloody events of Mecca, the aggression of the Zionists against Lebanon, the illegal entry of the aggressive forces and the outlaws of history, the United States and Europe, in the Persian Gulf and other conspiracies and instigations by the oppressors, each is considered a touchstone to evaluate the political character of the regimes in the Middle East region and consequently an evaluation of the political balance in this region. If the massacre of the defenseless pilgrims, who upon the order of the Koran had made Kaaba a center for uprising, and if their movement against the heathens is considered one of the reasons for the perpetuation of the crisis in the region, then every logic and ideology which supports this anti-Islamic and anti-human crime can naturally share the blame for the continuation of the crisis.

The Khash deputy explained the aggression of the U.S. and European naval forces with their entry into the Persian Gulf and added: The entry of the adventurous American and European ships into the region and the aggression of the naval forces of those countries in the Persian Gulf is one of the dimensions of this crisis. The sinister efforts and every sinister hand used to bring these adventurous and belligerent forces into the waters of the Persian Gulf are naturally also considered a step in the escalation of the Persian Gulf crisis.

Concerning the primary aggressors of the imposed war, the speaker said: If the imposed war is considered the most important factor in the Persian Gulf crisis, then all those unclean hands of the initial aggressors of this destructive war and the true arsonists of the eight-year battle which supported it financially, politically, provisionally, in terms of information, in propaganda, and economically from within and without are also considered among those who fueled the fire of war in the Persian Gulf.

The Khash deputy considered the aggression of the Zionists against Lebanon as one of the reasons for the crisis and said: The criminal aggression of the Zionists on the soil of the oppressed country of Lebanon and the slaughter of the suffering Muslims, both in Lebanon and occupied Palestine, defenseless people who rise up to defend their hearth and home, is also among the factors escalating the Middle East crisis. Any ideology and logic that approves such barbarism, the effects of oppressors and such beastly, ferocious behavior is naturally involved in creating crisis in the region.

Concerning the unbearableness of the Saudi family's rule over the two holy shrines, he said: If the Saudi regime, because it lacks political stability and a strong popular base in its country and other neighboring countries, insists on continuing its rule under the auspices of the heathen world of world-devouring oppressors, this is unbearable for Muslims. This kind of government cannot be tolerated by combative Muslims who have risen up against double oppression and injustice. Naturally, they consider it obligatory to continue their struggle by appointing pious, competent Muslim, rulers for the administration of the two holy shrines, unless the rulers of Hejaz become wise and repent their anti-human and anti-Islamic actions towards nations and their open treason on the sacred sites of the Muslims and instead of insisting on oppression, insist on supporting the Islamic world. Naturally, the Islamic people will then support them as a unified group, so that the tracks of the oppressive world will be eliminated forever from the sacred land and the oppressive world can no longer rule by creating disunity among the Islamic countries, every day in some manner creating quarrels among the countries of the Muslims through conspiracies and using their internal problems to its own advantage by keeping the Muslims busy and preparing the grounds for the settlement of the Jews in Palestine. Unfortunately, both the United States and Saudi Arabia have begun fighting Islam in the form of fighting Iran.

Concerning the lack of cooperation of the former officials and the later unjust politicians, the Khash deputy said:

Of course, it must be admitted that a series of failures and disappointments in the process of the Islamic revolutionary movement stems from our unpleasant actions and behavior and ungratefulness. Each one of us has had sensitive positions at various times in the Islamic revolution movement and know about the problems and

shortcomings both before and since the period of the responsibility of work. But now that we have entrusted the trenches to another brother, an offspring of the revolution, rather than giving a copy of our experiences during the time of our authority to the new person in charge, it seems to us as if they have usurped our legal and religious right. Instead of cooperating, we began to nag, disrupt, create a climate, and chant slogans against each other to make the situation intolerable for him as much as possible, the consequences of which ultimately will harm our revolutionary nature and benefit our enemies. At one time, we called the past government a serving government, and many of us worked in that government. But today we call it, with all of our might, the government of slogans. We call the government of the revered brother Hashemi-Rafsanjani the government of work, whereas about half of the ministers in this government are the same ministers as before.

Calling all the people to support the government and the officials, the speaker said: For God's sake, out of respect for Islam, the blood of the martyrs and the great blessing that God has given us, let us be grateful for this blessing, and in our hearts and voices, with all the power that we have, regardless of political ideas, let us support the serving government, the officials and all the forces of the country. Let us believe and continue to believe in the government that we have considered the government of work and not claw at it in speeches and writings in the press. Certainly, with the coordination of such actions, the suffering Islamic nation of Iran will no longer have confidence and belief, and naturally the lack of confidence will result in lack of support, which in turn will prevent us from engaging in the construction that we have ahead of us. Ours is a country which is larger than several thousands of kilometers to the north, south, east, and west, with several thousand kilometers of water borders and 50-60 degree centigrade differences in temperature, one side frozen and the other side either cool or moderate, a country with many varieties of agricultural products and plants that are unique in the world, a country with its particular political geography, one rich with copper and gold mines and coal and on an ocean of oil and natural gas, a deserving, creative nation and a people who have given martyrs and have a revered leader who is familiar with suffering, but in other economic, social, and cultural sectors, we have problems and fluctuations. We have all of this potential. Nevertheless, poverty is destroying the society. We must put our determination and talents to work.

In continuation, concerning the use of the expert opinions of the regional experts in planning, he said: We must have planning for all the sectors and sub-sectors to implement large plans, we must work on the abilities, capabilities, and weak and strong points in all areas and also include the views and opinions of the experts in the region in the plans and discuss them in the supreme councils of planning and decision making in order to make the necessary decisions on the basis of what is in our best interests.

Continuing his reference to pointing out weak and strong points of each other in order to make progress, the representative of the people of Khash said: All the officials and the executives must be tolerant of each other in all areas of decision making. They must accept each other's views. We should not try to fabricate evidence and excuses against each other. We must not consider our own inability to carry out the task well because of what others have done and then try to justify it or fabricate proof. We must point out each other's weak points in private and the strong points immediately. No matter what position or responsibility we have, we must insist on structural reforms and not on imposing our own personal views.

He added: On the whole, actions must be carried out within the framework of law, and the decision making and rules of individuals must be prevented; otherwise, the revolution and the Islamic nation will suffer harm. The longer a nation suffers from poverty and calamity, instead of getting closer to independence, the closer it gets to dependence.

In conclusion, the speaker made some reminders to several ministers about his constituency.

To the minister of education, concerning the lack of educational resources in Khash;
to the minister of the construction jihad, concerning unsuitable roads in the rural area of Khash;
to the ministers of agriculture and construction jihad, about helping to repair the damages to wells and pump motors and the arable lands in the Khash region as a result of the recent rainfall;
to the minister of culture and higher education, concerning the quota for the oppressed region of Khash.

Reminders of the Deputies to the Executive Officials

- Mr. al-Hoseyni, the Arak deputy: to the president, concerning observing high standards in educational appointments and special investigation of the education administration in Central Province.
- Mr. Najafi, the representative of Khaf and Rashtkhar: to the minister of health, treatment, and medical education, concerning investigating the situation of the Health Department of Khaf and the establishment of dentistry, a laboratory, and an emergency clinic in Rashtkhar.
- Mr. Hejazi, the Khoy deputy: to the minister of education, concerning changing the teacher training school of the city of Khoy to the teacher training college; and to the ministers of culture and higher education and education and training, in regard to establishing an agriculture school and an agricultural art school in Khoy.
- Mr. Astaneh, the Sarband deputy: to the minister of Islamic culture and guidance, concerning the establishment of a guidance office in Shazand; and to the minister of roads and transport concerning the Shazand, Chaqan, and Azna road and asphalting and completing the Rebat-Malek road.

Explanations of the Islamic Revolution Komiteh on the Speech of the Khodabandeh Deputy

Following the publication of the statements of Mr. Morovvatollah Partow, the representative of the people of Khodabandeh, made in a pre-agenda speech on 4/11/68 [4 January 1990] in the Majles that he was being pursued by the officials of the Islamic revolution Komiteh of his city, we received a response from the Islamic revolution Komiteh, which follows:

"Upon investigation, it became clear that the claim of Brother Morovvatollah Partow, the Khodabandeh deputy, that he is being pursued by the officials of the Islamic Revolution Committee was not true. If he has a document to this effect, he should present it in order for it to be followed up and the necessary steps to be taken."

Explanation and Correction

In the report concerning the publication of the views of experts on the duties in the agricultural sector, the position of Engineer Keshavarz was quoted as that of agricultural research and natural resource deputy of the Ministry of Agriculture. With all due apologies, this is hereby corrected to read deputy director of the agricultural research and natural resources organization.

*RESALAT Report on 20 May Majles Session

90AS0100A Tehran RESALAT in Persian
22 May 90 p 5

[Text] Legal and Majles Bureau:

The first item on the agenda of yesterday's open session of the Majles was the continuation of the investigation of the report by the Judicial and Legal Affairs Commission in regard to the plan for inclusion of certain articles to the law concerning the method of preserving the relics and monuments of His Holiness the Imam which was approved by the deputies.

Article 3: Anyone who, with bad intentions, distributes manufactured counterfeit work, mural, statue, film, and tape subject of this law shall be sentenced in accordance with the minimum punishment for each of such offenses.

Article 4: Investigation of offenses subject of this law shall be conducted by magistrates and courts of the Islamic revolution on a priority basis. The responsible judicial official can request for verification of authenticity of the subject article and its possible variation from the original work from the Organization for the Regulation and Publication of the Works of His Holiness Imam Khomeyni (may his grave be sanctified).

Article 5: Embassies of the Islamic Republic of Iran are obligated to take legal action for investigation, correction of the subject, and prevention of repetition against real or legal persons who forge, misrepresent, or destroy the works of his holiness the imam outside the country and inform the said organization of the incident.

Note: Cultural Houses of the Islamic Republic of Iran are obligated to report the above mentioned incidents to the embassies and the said organization.

The second item on the agenda was the report of the Agriculture Commission in regard to the proposal of the law for correction of the law for determining the status of disputed lands, the subject of implementation of Article 56 of the Law of Jungles and Pastures which was [originally] rejected by the commission, but after the statements made by opponents and proponents its generalities were approved.

The last item on the agenda was the proposal for the correction of Note 37 of the National Budget Law for the year 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] which was presented to the Majles in double priority and which its double priority status was passed by the deputies.

Also, during yesterday's open session of the Majles the receipt of the bill for correction of Paragraphs A and B of Article 54 of the General Conscription Law and designation of the source of payment of salaries to the families of the POW's was announced.

Special Attention To Education and Training Is Required for Realization of Revolutionary Goals

The first pre-agenda speaker during the Sunday open session of the Majles was Mr. 'Abdol Karim Ahmad-Nezhad, representing the Sanandaj constituency. After blessing the holy spirit of the imam [Khomeyni] and greeting the exalted leader of the revolution, he said: I thank God for blessing us with the privilege of being Muslim so that through the study of the lives of the great leaders of this religion and impression of its true teachings we can achieve worldly and eternal salvation. Thank God for placing our lives within the span of the establishment of the Islamic Republic so that we can feel and touch justice, equality, freedom of speech, and living in freedom. For safeguarding these blessings, it seems that more than ever before our revolution needs solidarity and sincerity. A solidarity which has its roots implanted deep in this heavenly religion and is the secret of victory, independence, and continuation of our revolution.

He added: This year, like previous years, the week for commemoration of the stature of teachers was held gloriously with the hope that this giving, hard working, and low expecting group can be given its true position. Much has been said and books have been written about the role of teachers in forming the future and their position and stature. However, much less has been done to provide relative comfort and security and create an atmosphere in order to guarantee a middle class life style for them. For our own future, we wish to be successful in creating a dedicated and specialized work force. We wish that our agriculture and industry can achieve self-sufficiency and go even further as a result of a specialized and expert work force.

The speaker continued: We wish our nation to respect religious regulations and Islamic principles, to be conscientious, to respect the law and surpass each other in charity work, payment of taxes, and other obligations towards the government. We wish that a majority of our people are sensitive toward purification and training of their children and defend the land and independence of their country selflessly and other wishes befitting this holy revolution. In order to achieve these goals, special attention to the education and training and their main pivot, teachers, seems necessary. While praising the increase in the number of university teachers, as a teacher I proclaim that a university teacher and a [ministry of] education and training teacher live under the same set of circumstances in this society and have similar expenses. If this is correctly studied, perhaps one can reach the conclusion that the difficulty of the work of a [ministry of] education and training teacher—considering the teaching hours, age, and physical condition of the students—is no less than that of a university teacher. In general, a teacher, regardless of the level of education, is a teacher and needs a sense of security and relative comfort. I beseech our leaders, especially Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani, to create a condition for teachers under which they can fulfill their mission in this holy regime.

In another part of his speech, the representative of the people of Sanandaj referred to issues concerning Kordestan Province and said: Kordestan Province with its capital of Sanandaj has been an important center for Iran's Sunni Muslim population and, thus, is a focal point of all Sunni Muslims. Therefore, it is suited that, as it has been favored by the exalted leader of the revolution, it shall be the focus of the special attention of the Office of Friday Prayers Leaders and like other cities of our Islamic country orders of the Friday prayers leaders of Kordestan also should be issued by this office; otherwise, Friday prayers will be discounted and will surely not be favored by the youth of the Sunni Muslim persuasion. Henceforth, considering the special value our leader places on this province, I request from his holiness to issue suitable decrees in this special regard.

In this regard, he added: Theological students of Kordestan Province, which are undergoing popular training in villages and are mostly under the instructions of their leaders, do not have a clear conscription status and at times, under the influence of the events and intellectual clashes, are deprived of their studies. I ask, therefore, that certain condition be brought about so that their conscription status can be clarified.

Continuing, Mr. Ahmad-Nezhad emphasized: Creating divisions, discord, and causing friction among Muslims and also conceit are futile poisons. Solidarity is none other than attachment to God which is the key and secret of success. For years, the appreciative and Muslim people of Kordestan have been living in an atmosphere of complete brotherhood and understanding beside their Shiite brothers. They respect their beliefs and have affection towards those who serve them. An outstanding example of this is their election of Engineer Zarringol in a region with a population of more than 98 percent Sunni. Therefore, the people of Kordestan expect that this sincerity and understanding in this sacred regime is further strengthened. I would like to attract the attention of the clergy and respected officials who serve in this province to this important issue.

He added: What must be considered as a reality is the sincerity of the general public in Kordestan towards Islam and the Islamic revolution. Considering the fact that the Islamic religion is the religion of equality and the only standard of superiority is piety and also considering a statement by our late imam who said "All Muslims are equal before Islam," I, along with my other colleagues, request from the respected president and the respected ministers of the government to delegate some of the responsibilities and duties to pious and worthy individuals and make them partners in the affairs of this province and appropriately consider the culture and ways of the people of this province.

Mr. Ahmad-Nezhad then pointed out the positive operation of the Islamic Republic's government with regard to reconstruction activities and thanked the responsible officials for their attention after the revolution. He also reminded them: Unemployment and unruly affairs of the youth is of utmost importance. If the grounds for unemployment are not eradicated during the five-year plan, then in the future the people of this province will surely suffer in their lives. A solution for such difficulty is the creation of big factories, numerous shops, and expansion of farming and raising cattle.

He thanked Engineer Mr. Ne'matzadeh, minister of industries, in this regard and added: The other solution is giving priority to hiring the local youth in government services which, regretfully, up to now some of the managers have utilized out-of-province work forces to run their organizations and have not utilized the hiring quotas of the province which, presently, most of them are not in the province and continuation of this process cannot be explained.

The representative of the people of Sanandaj added: I thank the respected ministers for their efforts regarding Kordestan Province and those who have expedited the delivery of services to the people of Kordestan as a result of appointing worthy managers. I thank Dr. Fazel for his attention and order regarding the Sanandaj hospital. I thank Dr. Kalantari for solving the problem of a number of Kordestani cattlemen. I sincerely thank His Excellency Dr. Najafi for the appointment of a new management in the province. On behalf of the people of Kordestan, I thank His Holiness Ayatollah Yazdi for his efforts resulting in the speedy resolution of judicial matters. I also request that he appoint a worthy, experienced, and politically neutral individual to manage the judicial organization of Kordestan so that the past and present wrong-doings of the judicial organization is forever corrected. I ask Dr. Mo'in, minister of culture and higher education, to consider and take speedy

action, based on the capacity of the Teacher Training College of Sanandaj, for its transformation into a university. I also ask that the method for selection of mathematics students in universities remain the same as before so that the deprived provinces do not lose their rights. I am sure that Mr. Aqazadeh, the respected minister of petroleum, is aware that the noble people of Kordestan have been informed through various sources about the initiation of the construction of the massive gas distribution facilities and any delay in the initiation of its construction has caused serious worries among the officials and the people. I ask, therefore, that this matter be expedited and I must add that, as Kordestan is a major agricultural and cattle raising region, it is crucial that its fuel shortages be alleviated expeditiously.

With the Prevailing Bureaucratic Situation, It Is Not Possible To Respond to the People's Needs, Especially During the Five-Year Plan

The second pre-agenda speaker during Sunday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Esma'il Delbari, the representative of the people of Bostan-Abad. In his speech, while pointing out that under the leadership of our revered imam our dear [Islamic] nation was able to resound the true Mohammadan Islam in the ears of world Muslims and the downtrodden and thus give them new life, he said: The rays of the Islamic sun which had risen once again in the east descended upon darkness and once more, after the beloved prophet (peace be upon him) Godly values were revealed. Good for this nation, good for the martyrs and amorous crusaders who were the leading scouts of this movement and registered the leadership of the great Islamic nation in history with their names. The powers of gold, force, and deceit were destroyed and the true slaves of God held the banner of God's rule on earth and launched on the implementation of justice which is the true prophecy of all prophets. Enemies of God, headed by the Great Satan, wished to put out this Godly light in any way they could, but were disgraced. Our late imam, with the backing of this nation, slapped America such that the sound of it sent shivers among smaller satans. Now, after the doleful passing of that idol-breaking imam, our duties have become heavier and we must be more alert and not waste any time in protecting the values of the revolution.

He then said: Nowadays, it is required of all those involved to strengthen the grounds for cultural, economic, and political growth. In dealing with issues, broadmindedness and Islamic behavior must be considered. Wastefulness and dissipation in conducting the affairs will be harmful and will cause the deviation of the society and must be discarded. Economic hardships must not soften our position in confronting the enemies of the revolution, especially the Great Satan. Our honor is in acting for God and with God in mind and, as the exalted leader of the revolution stated, not become terrified of mischiefs of America and its agents. We must seek help from the Almighty, bank on the efforts of the steadfast people, and utilize the knowledge and experiences of internal forces in order to solve our economic problems. We must eradicate inflation and high prices which are burdens upon the lower class as soon as possible. We must deal decisively and firmly with gold-diggers who, like leaches, suck the blood of this forbearing people and create the grounds for the general well being of the society. Executive managers of the country must rise to alleviate the problems of people with unbending faith, strong determination, and wide outlook. They must know that, as big victories came to these people during the revolution, success will result from the victory of God.

Mr. Delbari then referred to the bureaucratic situation and said: The respected president knows himself that with the present bureaucratic situation it is not possible to respond to the problems faced by the people, especially during the Five-Year Plan. Changes and creation of new methods in the bureaucratic structure seem to be necessary and fundamental in order to resolve the affairs.

While stating that increases in production in industrial and agricultural sectors is the principal goal of the Five-Year Plan, he said: Without relentless efforts and optimum utilization of capabilities and skills an increase in production will not be possible. Providing the tools and institutions for farmers, substantial discounts in the price of water and electricity used by farmers, and guaranties for the purchase of their products, which has fortunately been addressed by the Majles, will increase production. In order to confront our enemies, our country must have its own model for consumption within the economic dimension, and while achieving self-sufficiency—by depending on domestic production—through creation of relative advantage in its manufacturing launch on the ever-so-important export of goods. A large part of the national transportation industry which is run by the capable hands of hard working drivers requires the serious and scientific support of the government so that it can deliver the materials and goods needed by manufacturing and distribution centers on time. It is regretful that this hard working group must wait for days and even months for tires and spare parts. The respected Ministry of Roads and Transport must try harder in order to resolve the problems of this hard working sector.

Continuing his speech, the representative of the people of Bostan-Abad gave the following notices to the executive officials of the country: First, I give notice to the minister of justice, considering the heavy workload of the Peace Court of Bostan-Abad and the vastness of the judicial jurisdiction, to act appropriately for the speedy [creation] of the Peace Court to the justice organization. Second, I repeat my notice to the National Document and Land Registration Organization to act for creation of a document and land registration office in the city region of Bostan-Abad. Three, on behalf of the people of Bostan-Abad, I thank the provincial government of East Azerbaijan, the respected Ministry of Interior, and the respected cabinet for upgrading and changing the district

of Bostan-Abad to city region and request for the same consideration to change to county of Qareh-Chaman to district level.

In conclusion, he said: I thank His Holiness Ayatollah Karrubi for his visit to Bostan-Abad city region during the early part of the new year which brought many blessings.

Observance of Solidarity Is Solely Dependent Upon Absolute Obedience From Absolute Velayat-e Faqih

The third and final pre-agenda speaker of Sunday's open session of the Majles was Mr. Beytollah Ja'fari, the representative of the people of Orumiyeh. After extolling the holy spirits of Imam-e Sadeq (peace be upon him) and the imam [Khomeyni], he offered his condolences on the occasion of God's Day of 15 Khordad [5 June] and the anniversary of the passing of his holiness the imam and said: By offering my congratulations for the days marking the freedom of Khorramshahr, I begin my speech with the words of the late imam which is the foremost of sayings. The imam (peace be upon him) said: "Our nation will neither forget Moharram, which witnessed barbaric massacres by tyrants, nor 15 Khordad [5 June] which is the beginning of the spiritual Islamic movement. Cries of 'God Is Great', the light of faith and unity in words uprooted the Pahlavi dynasty. Our nation holds this day dear and I declare 15 Khordad [5 June] to be a day of national mourning forever." However, as Ashura [10 Moharram] bears political fruits so should 15 Khordad [5 June] be and remain a shining turning point in the political history of the world. A day on which 15,000 innocent people of Iran fell to their blood for wanting Islam and justice. And at last it was on 15 Khordad [5 June] that the heavenly face of the great imam returned to dust and the rising of several million people eternalized his way and path. Today, it is required that we move along the markings that he drew on the shining revolutionary apparatus, considering Islam as the greatest existing ideology and way of thinking. We must know that the slightest tendency towards East or West, right or left, is an unforgivable treachery towards the ideals of the martyrs. The other thing is that we shall consider the unity of word—the main ingredient of coordination—as the most important factor and believe that division in the ranks of Muslims is the cause for the celebration of the enemies of Islam.

Third, Islam and unity will not be properly addressed unless with the implementation of the regime of imamate leadership which is based upon unequivocal obedience from absolute velayat-e faqih [rule of the supreme jurisconsult]. You see, by every passing day the greatness, prestige, and glory of the exalted position of leadership of His Holiness Ayatollah Khamene'i becomes more evident to friends and foe. It is such that whenever the ship of the revolution sinks in political storms—through ignorant friends, intimidated simpletons, or cunning enemies such as the likes of the Great Satan—with 'Ali-like shouts and strong leadership, his holiness corrects the wrongs and confutes the enemies. It must be said here that liberals who have been slapped by the hezbollah, the credulous leaders of the Freedom Movement... the wealthy must know that the path is the path of Ruhollah [Khomeyni] and the power is the power of hezbollah. We are all standing in support of the leadership and will not allow America and the American monarchy to return to the country of Imam Sadeq (peace be upon him). Still, the words of that beloved traveler to heaven] are ringing in our souls that "Go and tell the people that Islam is neither in favor of chieftains nor the capitalists. These palace-dwellers have not done a single copper coin's worth of work for this revolution. The hair of you the downtrodden,is worth more than all the arrogants. Perhaps it is not correct for us to refer to tribes here, but in Islam there is no such thing as chieftain." This is the echo of this eternal cry. Therefore, what can be the answer of those who doubt or hold back in the campaign against blood-sucking capitalists, hoarders, speculators, black marketeers, smuggling and prostitution rings, and in the struggle against filthy chieftains. What answer can they have before God and the martyr-giving nation. Yes, the Islam that the imam helped realize was the Islam of the likes of Abu-Zar, Balal, Abu-Ayyub 'Ansari and not a rationale for the capitalists and land owners of al-Madinah.

He added: Regretfully, nowadays, those who had been turned away from the door by the solid punch of the nation are returning through the window. Some have been able to repossess—through infamous decrees—confiscated factories and the land allocated by the Revolutionary Councils for Land Allocation. They belittle and injure workers and farmers dedicated to the revolution.

Mr. Ja'fari then pointed out: In the deprived district of Silvana of Orumiyeh, agents of the chieftain, instigated by his children, go after the exemplary District Council and smear it in blood and dirt. I shall present the complaint of the innocent Muslim Kurdish people to the Majles, the deputies, and the revolutionary Majles speaker, and offer my condolences to the Muslim people of Tal-Gur. You political and judicial executives of the country, you followers of the true imam (the leader who has set the will of the people as the standard), I and other elected representatives of this martyr-nurturing nation shall present the complaint of the innocent people of my constituency and ask that you—by fully aligning yourselves with the deprived—strive to eradicate this unrest and remove these leach-like individuals because, these days, the occurrence of injustices is progressively increasing and there are no decisive controls. You know well that the cries of the deprived people for help has reached the heavens. Our farmers are not yet secure. Workers are suffering as a result of Article 33 of the Labor Law drafted at the time of Satan [Pahlavi regime]. Teachers want to know how wide is the gap in the value of a teacher and a university professor that warrants such inequality? The exalted families of martyrs, life-givers, combatants, and POW's are upset about the present favoritisms and failure to implement the laws supporting

them. Why are barriers still created—especially by the Ministry of Health, Treatment, and Medical Education—for the education of combatants which was passed by the Majles—why and thousand more whys.

He continued: The stormy movement of our revolution must be focused on the speedy and fruitful reconstruction of manufacturing institutions so that we may solve our domestic problems through economic independence and be able to stand on our own feet and build a strong trench for the downtrodden in their struggle against world arrogance. Of course, no one is against payments due the deserved. No one is against positive and fruitful capitalization, but discriminations are not acceptable. In this regard, the relentless efforts of the working cabinet of the respected president, His Excellency Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi-Rafsanjani, must be appreciated and his attention must be sought to resolve the problems of the deprived provinces—be they political, military, and especially management. The further we go away from the capital and the closer we are to the boarders, the more pain and the fewer cures can be found, although his excellency has special and personal concern for the deprived regions. I, as a small servant, appreciate and thank the Komiteh along with the Gendarmerie for their relentless efforts in fighting against the merchants of death and the processes of corruption and prostitution, especially in East Azerbaijan, and hope that this revolutionary institution remains strong and shining by safeguarding its original form.

Pakistan

Militants Reject Interim Kashmir Government

BK2706150290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1426 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Islamabad, June 27 (AFP)—Twelve influential militant parties here on Wednesday [27 June] rejected Kashmiri leader Amanullah Khan's provisional government as an Indian conspiracy to sabotage a Kashmiri secessionist movement.

The parties, claiming to be the only representative political force in the Indian-held part of Kashmir, also warned India and Pakistan against ignoring their demand for a plebiscite in the Himalayan valley.

The foreign secretaries of both countries, which have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, are expected to meet soon for talks on the issue which has created fears of a third war since early this year.

The parleys should focus "only on the date for the plebiscite," said Mohammed Ashraf Sarraf, chief of the 10-party, Tehreek-e-Hurriat (Movement for the Liberation) of Kashmir, which is based in Indian-held Kashmir.

He told a joint press conference in the Pakistani capital that "any delay in reaching this agreement was fraught with danger of a nuclear war in the subcontinent."

Pakistan has also rejected as invalid the provisional government that Mr. Khan announced on June 18 in Muzaffarabad, Pakistani-controlled Kashmir.

Mr. Sarraf said the provisional government included names of his Tehreek leaders without their consent.

"It was aimed at creating misunderstanding among the militants to ultimately sabotage the movement on the Indian behest," he said, adding that the move also contradicted the U.N. resolution which calls for a choice between India and Pakistan.

The press conference was also addressed by Ghulam Mohammed Saafi, chief of the Hezbul Mujahidin and Ghulam Hassan Lone, organiser of Janbaz Force, who said they put full confidence in the multi-party movement of Mr. Sarraf.

"We unanimously reject the provisional government of the independent state of Jammu and Kashmir," he said.

Mr. Amanullah Khan has taken the move "at a time when we are close to victory," the bearded militant leader said.

Mr. Khan, who is also chief of the "Karachi-based" Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), has chosen "a new battlefield when any retreat is seen not feasible" for the movement, Mr. Sarraf said.

Hizbul Mujahidin chief Mr. Saafi, who claimed that his group was sharing more than 60 per cent of the militants total force, said the idea of an independent Kashmir was India's "second line of defence."

Mr. Sarraf said the JKLF in Indian-controlled Kashmir did not recognize Mr. Khan because of his "secular and socialist ideas."

The JKLF in the valley is headed by the elder son of Maqbool Butt who was hanged by the Indian authorities on a charge of murdering an Indian diplomat in London.

Asked why Mr. Khan gained prominence in the valley, Mr. Saafi said the "Kashmiris' attitude now is that they back any leader who is opposed by the Indians."

Stressing that the leaders based outside Kashmir have no right to represent the freedom fighters, Mr. Saafi, whose party is considered close to the Pakistani fundamentalist Jamaat-i-Islami, said the "Jamaat can feed us and support our struggle but it can not dictate" its terms.

Dubbing Mr. Khan as New Delhi's man, he said Indians have jailed some former Congress Party leaders and former ministers also, "with the intention of using them in safeguarding India's interest in future negotiations."

He also thanked the secretary general of the 45-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) to include for the first time the Kashmir issue in the agenda of the forthcoming OIC Foreign Ministers Meeting in Cairo.

The OIC should not only condemn the persecution of Kashmiris by Indian forces but it should also voice its firm support for the Kashmiri rights to self-determination as endorsed by the United Nations in January 1949, he added.

'Error' of Interim Kashmir Government Viewed

BK2006145090 Lahore THE NATION in English 20 Jun 90 p II

[Editorial: "Amanullah's 'Interim Government' "]

[Text] In a completely unexpected move, Amanullah Khan, Chairman, Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front (JKLF), has announced the formation of an 'interim government'. Although the press report about this announcement is somewhat sketchy, one assumes that his so-called 'interim government' was intended to represent the people of the Indian-held Kashmir. Thus he was presumably not questioning the legitimacy of the AK [Azad Kashmir] government, which the Government of Pakistan recognises—pending the final settlement of the issue—as representing the freed areas of the State. His announcement was thereby intended to supplement and complete the interim representational character of the AK government. That he could have done it by asking for additional seats in the AK Assembly or some other device which did not create a rival body, is obvious. But Mr Amanullah Khan is very much his own man and his strategy and objectives in the Kashmiri struggle are often at variance from those of the Government of Pakistan.

Why did Amanullah Khan choose this particular moment to make the announcement, is not quite clear. Unless of course he wanted to make Pakistan's task of convincing India that it has no hand in the uprising, more difficult. India has just agreed to discuss Kashmir at Foreign Secretaries' level. And although it would be unwise to pin much hope on the outcome of these talks, it would be injudicious to jeopardise them either. Needless to say Amanullah Khan stands for an Independent Kashmir, an option which Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has ruled out as outside the scope of UN's interpretation of the right of self-determination in the context of Kashmir. He also has in his eagerness to project a secular image for his cause made the naive gesture of including Dr. Karan Singh, the last Dogra ruler of Jammu and Kashmir and until recently Indian Ambassador in Washington, in his 'Council of Ministers'. Apart from the fact that such overtures can hardly win support among the Hindus of the State who have unequivocally cast their lot with India, the so-called 'interim government', instead of becoming a rallying point for freedom-fighters may signal dissensions in their ranks. With all the deference which may be due to Mr. Amanullah Khan as a resilient fighter against Indian hegemony, he seems to have made a serious error of judgment. If history is any guide, the struggle in Kashmir has not yet reached the stage where the freedom-fighters could afford to transform their movement into an 'interim government'.

Spokesman Denies Report on Border Situation

BK2706113390 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 27 Jun 90 p 12

[Text] Islamabad, June 26—A spokesman of the Ministry of Defence has described as totally fabricated the news report published in a section of the press on June 26 quoting the Minister of State for Defence, Col (Retd), Ghulam Sarwar Cheema as having said that there was no cause of concern over the border situation.

The spokesman added that the Minister had not met any newsman at Parliament. Therefore the news attributed to him was altogether concocted.

Army To Stay in Sindh Until Aims Reached

BK2706112990 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 27 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[By Ashraf Hashmi]

[Text] Islamabad June 26—The army will continue to act in aid of the civil administration in Sindh till the objectives it was deployed for are fully achieved.

This was stated here Tuesday [26 June] by a spokesman of the Ministry of Defence. Talking to THE MUSLIM the spokesman said that there was no truth in reports suggesting differences between the armed forces and the federal government over the modalities of the ongoing joint operation by the army, rangers and police for the maintenance of law and order, and restoration of peace in the province.

He said the army was deployed on the request of the provincial government to help restore peace in the province and as such it was performing its constitutional duty. The spokesman avoided comments when asked which of the articles of the constitution would ultimately be applied to give a legal cover to the deployment of the armed forces in Sindh.

When asked about the proposed province-wise clean-up operation to be launched to apprehened terrorists and dacoits, the spokesman said that it would be jointly launched by the army, rangers and police. The provincial government, he said, would decide the exact date of the operation which according to him might continue for at least three months. The spokesman said a method was being evolved under which the three forces: the army, police and rangers, would be able to work in close collaboration.

Meanwhile reliable sources told THE MUSLIM that the proposed province-wise clean up operation would be launched immediately after Id [Id-al Adha]. The modalities of the operation have already been finalised on the directions of Prince Minister Benazir Bhutto who is said to have issued specific instructions that no mercy should be shown

to the "gangsters" found responsible for killing and looting innocent people. All criminals, no matter to which political group they belong, should be apprehended and severely punished, the Prime Minister is said to have told the authorities responsible for the operation.

Presiding over a high level meeting recently, the Prime Minister is reported to have told her colleagues that she would not tolerate the lawlessness in the province." The unfortunate situation of violence and turmoil we inherited from the martial law regime, would not be allowed to continue any more". She further said that peace be restored to the inhabitants of the province who have been living in a state of constant fear and terror for a long time.

Sri Lanka

Government Forces Consolidate Position in East

BK2506130690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Jun 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, the government forces are reported to have further consolidated their position in the Eastern Province by clearing many more areas. The minister of state for defense, Mr. Ranjan Wijeratne, told newsmen in Colombo today that soldiers are fast moving as LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] cadres are fleeing into the forest. He said the government is reestablishing police stations in Akkaraipattu and Pottuvil earlier captured from the LTTE. The minister said the government will hold negotiations with the LTTE only on condition that the militants lay down their arms.

Delhi Reports on 'Heavy Fighting' in Jaffna

BK2706162090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Jun 90

[Text] Jaffna Peninsula is again reported to be the scene of heavy fighting between government forces and the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] today. A government spokesman said in Colombo that the rebels continue to fire mortar rockets on soldiers besieged inside the fort and the Palali air base. The LTTE has said many shops and houses in Jaffna have been badly damaged in the aerial bombing.

In eastern Sri Lanka, fighting continues around the town of Batticaloa. According to official reports from Colombo, the Sri Lankan air force has successfully dropped essential supplies to the army and the police personnel. Official sources told AIR [All India Radio] Colombo correspondent, Karupaswami, that the LTTE has blasted the Malwatu tributary bridge in Mannar District. The sources also said that in the Eastern Province, government forces continue to make progress by clearing bunkers and camps in Trincomalee and Batticaloa areas.

Youths Join Army; Battle in Northeast Continues

BK2806034590 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Jun 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka, over 50,000 youths thronged the military headquarters in Colombo yesterday responding to a call by the government to join the Army. The speedy recruitment of new soldiers by the Army is a part of an intensified offensive to rid northeast Sri Lanka of the militants, who have been fighting for a separate state.

Meanwhile, LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] cadres continued with their offensive against the Sri Lankan Armed Forces in the island's northern districts for the 18th day. The Jaffna Fort, the Palali Air Base, and military detachments in Kankesanturai in the Jaffna Peninsula were the targets of intermittent mortar attacks.

According to military sources, the Army pounded LTTE positions with heavy artillery, and the Air Force flew sorties yesterday as the military continued its efforts to rescue the 400 policemen and soldiers trapped inside the Jaffna Fort.

In Tamil Nadu, six Sri Lankan militants were arrested yesterday. Suspected to be members of the LTTE, they were arrested on a charge of conspiring to blow up an overbridge in Madurai and a railway line.